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THE

ADVENTURES

OF

Miss BEVERLY.

Interspersed with

GENUINE MEMOIRS

OF A

Northern LADY of Quality.

VOL. II.

LONDON:

Printed for S. BLADON, in Pater-noster-Row.

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HISTORY

OF

Miss BEVERLY.

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CHAP. I.

*** HERE are no Causes so dark

T and intricate as those which
concern supposititious Births:

The Delivery of a Woman
passes in so private a Manner, there is
such Hurry and Consusson upon the
Occasion, and so many Persons concerned, that Imposition becomes easy;

You, II. B which,

HISTORY of

which, when once it has gained Credit in the World, every Day gathers Strength; and in Process of Time it becomes almost impossible, in Cases of this Nature, to distinguish between Truth and Falsehood; insomuch that in what relates to Birth, it is equally easy for Impostors to deceive the World, as it is difficult for those who are accused as such to vindicate themselves from the Charge, and prove their Legitimacy.

If we attend only to the Circumstances, there never was a Cause concerning Legitimacy involved in greater Darkness and Perplexity than this Douglas Cause; but if we seriously consider the Characters of those who are accused of an Action so contrary to all Laws, both divine and human, as an Attempt Attempt to counterfeit a Birth, in order to get Possession of an Estate, and defraud the right Heirs, we shall scarce hesitate to pronounce Mr. Archibald Stewart Douglas legitimate, and to acquit his Parents of the base Machinations which are laid to their Charge. But not to detain the Reader any longer with preliminary Research, I shall immediately enter upon this extraordinary Narrative.

Lady Jane Douglas, Sister to the late Duke of Douglas, and Mother to Mr. Archibald, was privately married in the Year 1746, at her House near Edinburgh, to Colonel Stewart of Grandtully. They were both pretty far advanced in Life; Lady Jane was, at that Time, in her forty-seventh Year. My Aunt, who had known her in London three Years B 2

HISTORY of

before her Marriage, faid, That the was, at that Time, a very fine beautiful Woman; that she had as fine black Hair and Eves as ever were feen; that her Complexion was extremely delicate, and had no other Defect, except not having any Mixture of the Rose with the Lily. She has often told me, that there was an Air of Openness and Ingenuity in Lady Jane's Countenance, characteristic of the Integrity of her Heart: and that she never knew a Woman, who, in all her Words and Actions, discovered more Greatness of Soul, or Abhorrence of Treachery and Deceit.

Colonel Stewart, I have been affured by many who were intimately acquainted with him, was a Man of great Courage, and of a noble generous Spirit;

in the Colonal Strums of Grandin's

rit; they have also told me, they were certain he would not favour Falsehood or Deceit in the most trivial Matters, much less be the Author of it; and that they would as soon believe the Truth of any Fact upon his bare Assertion, as if a thousand credible Witnesses had sworn to it. Is it at all probable, that Persons of such Characters as these, should either contrive, or carry on, so black and odious an Imposture?

Mr. Stewart and Lady Jane were under a Necessity of keeping their Marriage private, as the Duke of Douglas had long since been piqued against the former. After much Enquiry, I at last found the Cause of this old Grudge to be as follows: Many Years before, both the Duke and Mr. Stewart being in London together, and B 3 being

being both at that Time very young, were hurried away by the Heat of Youth, and like others of their Age, gave into the Follies and Vanities of the Times: Happening to be one Night at a Mafquerade in the Hay-Market, Mr. Stewart, after it was over, led a Lady. dressed in the Habit of a Shepherdess, and masked, to a Hackney Coach, which waited there to carry them both off. The Lady was no other than a celebrated Actress of that Age, who was remarkable for being very liberal of her Favours. The Duke, who was at that Time somewhat in Liquor, laid Claim to her, as under a prior Engagement to him: Mr. Stewart would not relinquish the Right he had to her by Priority of Possession, but defended it with his Sword; and the Duke drawing to make good his Claim, was disarmed by

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by him. The Scotch Nobility are as despotic at home as Turkish Bashaws, or Polish Palatines; it is therefore not to be wondered at that they should surpass in Pride the Nobility of all other Countries. The haughty Spirit of the Duke could ill brook being thus worsted by a Person in Rank so much inferior to himself, and he retained a deep Resentment against Mr. Stewart as long as he lived.

To return to the new married Couple: Colonel Stewart and Lady Jane, rightly judging that their Marriage could not long remain a Secret whilst they continued to reside in Scotland, resolved to set out directly for France. In Pursuance of this Resolution, Lady Jane, attended by Mrs. Helen Hewit as her Companion, and two Maid-Servants,

B 4

Isabel

Isabel Walker, afterwards Mrs. Glass, and Effy Caw, fet out from Drumseugh, near Edinburgh, the 16th or 17th of March, 1746, fix Days after the Nuptials were folemnized. They were joined at Huntingdon in England by Colonel Stewart, who did not care to accompany her from Scotland, for Fear of giving Room to Suspicion. They passed the following Winter at Utrecht and the Hague, and at the End of April, 1747, fet out for Aix la Chapelle, where they refided till the 1st of June, 1748. In all these Places Sir John and Lady Jane cohabited as Man and Wife; but still they kept their Marriage so private, that it was not generally known that they were fuch: For the same Reasons which induced them to leave Scotland, proved the Necessity of Privacy even in a foreign Country. They were, however, foon

foon after obliged to throw off the Mask, by Lady Jane's proving with Child in 1747. Lady Jane wrote immediately to Lord Crawford, who was then with the Army, requesting him to acquaint the Duke of Douglas with her Situation. At the fame Time her Friends at Aix la Chapelle were highly pleased to observe the Progress of her Pregnancy. Of the Number of these were Lady Wigton, Miss Primrofe, Mrs. Greig, Mr. and Mrs. Hepburn of Keith, and Mrs. Hewit, who when the Cause was tried, all particularly deposed, that Lady Jane had the Appearance of a Woman with Child. as mor to be able to fav with any Cer-

The Congress being then near at Hand, Mr. Stewart determined to quit that Place, and remove to France with his Company. They accordingly set B 5 out

out for Rheims in Champagne without Delay. Being arrived at that City, Lady Jane's Pregnancy was there obferved by the Abbé Hibert, who walked with her every Evening; by Lieutenant Mackenzie and Maclean; two British Officers, who, baving been taken Prisoners by the French, resided then at Rheims; and by many more. 'Tis remarkable, however, that the Passengers who were in the Rheims Stage-Coach with Lady Jane, when she set out for Paris, never once perceived in herany Symptoms of Pregnancy. But Passengers might pay so little Attention to a Person they had never feen before in their Lives, as not to be able to fay with any Certainty, whether she was with Child or not. Besides, as Lady Jane wore a long Cloak, and was often dreffed in a Hoop, we should not be surprized that

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that People who were ignorant of her Connexion with Mr. Stewart, did not pay the same Attention to her Person, as those who were intimately acquainted with her.

Upon the 2d of July, 1748, Colonel Stewart, Lady Jane, and Mrs. Hewit, fet out for Paris in the Rheims Stage-Coach, and arrived in that City on the oth of the same Month in the Evening. Upon the 7th of July, Lady Jane perceiving that her Delivery was approaching, removed from the Inn where she had lodged till then, to the House of one Madame La Brun, in a different Quarter of the Fauxbourg, and was there delivered on the 10th of July, by Peter La Marre, an eminent Man-midwife, of two Sons; the eldest strong and healthy; the youngest a weak, sickly Child. They B 6

They stayed in this House about ten Days after the Delivery, when Lady Jane, notwithstanding the Condition she was in, was obliged to remove to another, on Account of Bugs. They went next to the Hotel D'Anjou, Rue Serpente Fauxbourg St. Germain, which belonged to Monsieur and Madame Michelle. Lady Jane, not having fufficiently recovered her Strength, lay here for fome Time. It must be obferved, that the youngest of the Children, being very weak and fickly, was fent by the Man-midwife, immediately after the Delivery, to the Country, to be nursed. The other being strong and healthy, continued with his Mother at La Brun's; and, upon her Removal to Michelle's, followed her thither with his Nurfe. It is remarkable, that all the People of Michelle's House ob-Will L ferved

Miss BEVERLY. 13 ferved that Lady Jane had all the Symptoms of Pregnancy.

It was about this Time that the Family of Hamilton, which stood next in Order of Succession, contrived to have a Report raised and propagated, that Lady Jane, through Aversion to their Family, had been guilty of the Crime of counterfeiting a Birth-That her Children had been picked up in the Streets of Paris -- That for this Purpose she had gone to France with Mr. Stewart, who, in Conjunction with her, was introducing a fpurious Race into the Family of Douglas. The Partisans of the Family of Hamilton did not fail to take Advantage of this Report to stir up the Duke's Indignation. It was at this Juncture also that the Villain Stockbriggs, who had

had an uncommon Dexterity at counterfeiting any Hand which he had feen but once, produced a forged Letter from Lady Jane to a Lady in Scotland, who was known to be her intimate Acquaintance. It contained the most bitter Expressions of Hatred to the Hamilton Family; and at the fame Time discovered her Design of defeating their Hopes of the Succession, and shewed that she had formed a Scheme to supplant them in the Succeffion. The Duke, who was not endowed with a very extraordinary Share of Penetration or Discernment, was easily imposed upon by these Artifices. He really believed that his Sifter had counterfeited a Birth; for he was weak enough to imagine, that nobody would presume to tell the Duke of Douglas that his Sister was infamous, had not her

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her Infamy been proved to a Demonstration. The Lion was moved within
him, when he heard of this base and
infamous Stratagem, which would
have disgraced the meanest of the
Douglas Race; he therefore resolved
never to see his Sister more, nor receive her again into Favour upon any
Account. The Consequence of this
Resolution was a Settlement in Favour
of the Family of Hamilton, to the utter Exclusion of Lady Jane's Children.

It is now Time to think of Mr. Stewart and his Family, who were returned to Rheims, having left Paris. Colonel Stewart's eldest Son was baptized at the former of those Cities, being then two Months old; after which the Colonel set out with his Lady for England, having first brought his youngest

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youngest Son Sholto from Paris. The first Effect of the Resentment of the Duke felt by Lady Jane was, the Loss of her Pension of 300 l. a Year, about six Months after the Birth of her Children, which would inevitably have plunged her in the deepest Distress, had it not been for the Generosity of Lord Morton, who, being informed of her Missortunes, remitted her, without Delay, three hundred and sifty Pounds.

In 1752, Lady Jane, hoping to recover the lost Favour of the Duke her
Brother, made a Journey into Scotland,
accompanied by her Children, Mrs.
Hewit, and Ifabel Walker; Col. Stewart
still continuing in London. The Legitimacy of Mr. Douglas received a
strong Confirmation from this Journey
to Scotland, his Resemblance to the
Duke

Miss BEVERLY.

Duke his Uncle being univerfally acknowledged. Lady Jane, whose Innocence inspired her with Confidence, and who flattered herself that the very Sight of her Children could not fail of convincing the Duke that his Suspicions were groundless, made an Effort to gain Admittance to his Presence. She went' accordingly to Douglas-Castle, but was refused Admittance. The Purpose for which she had undertaken a Journey into Scotland being thus defeated, Lady Jane returned directly to London, leaving the Children at Edinburgh, in a House near the Meadow, under the Care of Isabel Walker, Mr. Loch, and Mr. Colvill.

I have often heard Mr. Douglas fay, that young as he was at the Time he accompanied his Mother into Scotland,

he felt a sensible Satisfaction at seeing that Country, which he confidered ashis own; and that it was by Choice he stayed in that Kingdom, his Mother having left it to his Option, either to reside there, or return to France. He told me likewise, That though he could speak but very little English at his coming over, he had so ardent a Defire to learn it, that in about three Months Time he could converse in that Language as fluently as French, which was natural to him, as he was born in France, and his Father and Mother always spoke French in his Presence; for they were apprehensive, that, should he be used to speak two Languages in his tender Years, it might create a Confusion which he would never after be able to get rid of.

Two Days after Lady Jane's Departure from Scotland, her younger Son Sholto caught a Fever, of which he died. This new Misfortune affected her more than all her other Afflictions, and a deep Melancholy preyed upon her during the short Remainder of her Life. In 1753 the returned to Scotland, where perceiving that her End approached, she ordered her Son Archibald to be brought to her Bed-fide, and advising him to bear with a manly Resolution the Loss he was about to fuftain, she thus addressed him with her dying Voice: " My Child, God make you a good and an honest Man; for Riches I despise. Take " a Sword in your Hand, and you may one Day become as great a Hero as s any of your illustrious Ancestors."

As the Almighty never fails to raise up Friends to the Orphan, and to all fuch as are destitute and in Distress, so it happened upon this Occasion. On the Death of Lady Jane, Lady Schaw, Widow of Sir John Schaw, of Greenock, Baronet, and Grandmother to the Honourable Mrs. Napier, took Mr. Archibald Stewart Douglas under her Protection. Mr. Douglas has often told me, That he had as strong an Affection for that generous Lady as he had ever felt for his Mother; and that he thought himself equally bound in Duty to love the Person to whom he was indebted for an Education suitable to his Birth, as well as for her generous Patronage and Protection. Colonel Stewart succeeding to the Estate of Grandtully, by the Death of his Brother, Sir George Stewart, came to Scotland.

Bond for fifty thousand Marks to be executed in Favour of Mr. Douglas, his Son, which he wrote all over with his own Hand, from the Scroll made of it by Mr. Lock, his Agent, who, with his Son and Sir John's Servant, were Witnesses.

The Duke of Douglas being at last thoroughly persuaded that Mr. Douglas was an Impostor, was easily prevailed upon to confirm the Settlement in Favour of the Family of Hamilton; whereupon Lady Schaw, who espoused the Interest of Mr. Douglas with as much Warmth as if he had been her own Son, resolved to set on Foot an Enquiry into the Truth of his Birth, and used every Method in her Power to convince the Duke he had been imposed upon.

In Pursuance of this Resolution, in May 1756, Mrs. Napier, Lady Schaw's Grand-daughter, laid before Sir John Stewart the Necessity of taking some Steps, in Order to remove the Doubts which had been entertained concerning the Birth of his Son. She therefore requested him to give her in Writing, an Account of the Circumstances relating to the Birth :--- as the Name of the House and Street where Mr. Douglas was born, the Name of the Midwife by whom Lady Jane was delivered, &c. Sir John's Memory, which had never been a good one, was then much impaired by Age, and a Succession of Misfortunes; he told Mrs. Napier, that about the Time of Lady Jane's lying-in, they had changed Houses so often, that he could not be positive with regard to the House where the Delivery

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Delivery happened; but that he would endeavour to recollect, and give her all those Particulars in Writing. But the Lady infifting on a Memorandum of fuch Names as he could recollect. he wrote one, dated May 13, 1756, in which Michelle's House was set down as the Place of Delivery. Here it is evident, that Sir John's Memory must have failed him, for they did not come to Michelle's till the Delivery was over. This Memorandum was fent by Mrs. Napier to Lady Fanny Stewart, the Wife of Sir James Stewart, of Goodtrees. Bart. who was then at Spa, with a Request that she would cause an Enquiry to be made into those Particulars, in order to establish the Reality of Mr. Douglas's Birth. Sir James immediately wrote to Mr. John Gordon, Principal of the Scotch College at Paris, requesting him to make the Enquiry; at the same Time sending him a Copy of Sir John's Memorandum. Principal Gordon made Enquiry at Michelle's, according to his Directions, and was given to understand that Sir John and Lady Jane had lodged there.—That she then had the Appearance of a Woman lately delivered; but that the Delivery did not happen at that House. This Account was transmitted to Sir James Stewart, and by him to Lady Napier and Lady Schaw.

Sir John Stewart finding some Time after that he had made some Mistake in the first Memorandum, wrote a second, in which Madame La Brun's House, Fauxbourg St. Germain, was specified as the Place of Delivery. Mrs. Napier purposed to have wrote a second

Mis BEVERLY. cond Letter to Lady Jane Stewart, upon receiving this Memorandum; but the did not immediately put her Design in Execution, and the Enquiry was dropt for a Time. An extraordinary Revolution had happened at Douglas Castle. Stockbrigg, who was the chief Instrument in alienating the Duke from Lady Douglas and her Children, was dead; the Duke had got the better of his Aversion to Society, and was married, and the Adherents of the Hamilton Family had, in a great Measure. loft their Influence over him. The Duke, by the Dutchess's Persuasion, quitted his Retirement, and resided at Edinburgh during the Winter. His Eyes were at last opened, and he perceived how much he had been imposed upon by the Minions who poffeffed his Ear. The Dutchess warmly espoused the VOL. II. Cause

Cause of Mr. Douglas. She explained to her Husband the Motives which induced the Partizans of the Hamilton Family to lay fo black a Deed to the Charge of Lady Jane; and convinced him that many of the Stories which had been told him were absolutely false and without the least Foundation. She concluded with urging him to acknowledge his Nephew, and cancel the Settlement which he had been drawn into by the Artifices of defigning Men. The Duke at last yielded to the Intreaties of the Dutchess, and promised to make Enquiry concerning the Birth. Mrs. Hewit, who accompanied Lady Jane to Paris, and was present at her Delivery, lived then at Edinburgh .-The Duke had feveral Conferences with her, and from her strong, uniform, and confistent Account, was convinced

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Finced that his Sister had been wrong-fully accused, and that Mr. Donglas was legitimate. No sooner was the Duke undeceived, but he cancelled the Writings by which he had settled his Estate upon the Family of Hamilton, and devised it to his Nephew, Archibald Stewart Douglas.

The Duke dying soon after this Settlement was made, Mr. Douglas proved before a Court of Judicature, that he was universally believed to be the Son of Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas; and moreover proved the Pregnancy at different Places, and the actual Delivery at Paris, by the Testimony of a Person who was present at the Birth. A Verdict was therefore given in his Favour by the Jury, importing, that he was the nearest and C 2 lawful

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lawful Heir to the deceased Archibald, Duke of Douglas, his Uncle.

How hard must Mr. Douglas's Case appear; to be so near attaining the Height of his Wishes, yet every Day to meet with new Obstacles to his being put in Possession of what an impartial Jury had declared to be his Right! The Tutors of the Duke of Hamilton were resolved to use their Interest and Power to deprive him of the Succesfion; and with that View determined to ascertain the Truth of the late Reports fo dishonourable to Mr. Douglas. They therefore dispatched Mr. Andrew Stewart, one of their Number, and a Man of strict Probity, to Paris, with Directions to make Enquiry concerning the Truth of Lady Jane's Delivery. Claims were at the same Time entered

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to the Duke of Douglas's Estate, not only by his Nephew, Mr. Douglas, but by the Duke of Hamilton and the Earl of Selkirk.

Whilst this Process was depending in Scotland, Mr. Andrew Stewart made fome Discoveries in France, which he thought would turn to the Advantage of his Pupil. As Madame La Brun was faid to be the Woman in whose House the Delivery happened, and Peter La Marre the Man-midwife who attended Lady Jane, Mr. Stewart made the most diligent Enquiry imaginable for them, as well by himself, as with the Affiftance of the Inspector of the Police. These Enquiries were however unsuccessful; and as the Police of Paris is reckoned extremely exact, it was concluded that there never were any fuch Persons. Mr. Stewart made further.

By searching the Registers at the Coach-offices, he discovered the Names of those who had accompanied her through the several Stages in her Journey from Aix to Paris. By their Accounts he was convinced that Lady Jane had not even the Appearances of Preg-

the most difficult Enquire

Pregnancy in that Journey; and that, of Consequence, these Appearances were equivocal, being observed by some, and not remarked by others. These were considerable Discoveries; yet the chief Discovery was still to come. But this I shall reserve to the next Chapter.

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to consultation of the Point of Sattle and seeder, Communicates, with the Sulpsetted by Mrs. Streets, all he leaves having liftened acceptable to the Surv

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CHAP. II.

AR. Stewart having mentioned to M a Gentleman at Rheims the Defign of his Journey to France, the ftrong Suspicions that Mr. Douglas was an Impostor, and the Evidence he had already procured, was given to understand, that the Curé of St. Laurent at Paris had related to him the History of an Enlevement, which seemed to coincide exactly in Point of Time and other Circumstances with that fuspected by Mr. Stewart. The latter having liftened attentively to the Story, procured a Direction to the Curé, and fet out directly for Paris. The Account given by the Curate was as follows: That an elderly Gentleman, answering to the Description of Sir Tobn John Stewart, had applied to him, in; November 1749, for a Lift of the Poor of his Parish, telling him, that a foreign: Lady of Quality in his Parish, who. was very charitably disposed, was willing to be at the Expence of maintaining and educating a Child of any poor Person, and had employed him to ask: a Lift for that Purpose; but, as the Gentleman would not acquaint: him with the Lady's Name, the Curate could not be prevailed upon to grant his Request; that the Gentleman hereupon applied for a Lift to the Les Soeurs de la Charité, " to the Sifters of the Charity" of that Parish, and obtained it-That, as foon as he had procured a Lift of the poor Families, and a Woman to attend him in his Search, he went to feveral Houses, enquiring for Children-That when there were none

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buc

but female Children in a House, he immediately left it, and went to another, till at last he came to the House of a poor Man and Woman (Sanry) who had eight or nine Children-That his Attention was engaged by one of the youngest, a Boy of a fair Complexion; that he immediately made Choice of him; and that the Child's Parents confented, being imposed upon by the Story he had invented concerning the charitable Lady That accordingly the Boy was carried to the Gentleman's Lodgings, where were two Ladies-That, folicitous about their Child, the Parents returned the next Day, and found him well clothed and tenderly treated-That the Gentleman told them his Name was Duvernes; that he was a Native of the Kingdom of Ireland; and that his usual Residence

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was at St. Germain en Laye, in the Neighbourhood of Paris - That, upon returning foon after to the fame House, they were given to understand, that the Strangers fet out that Morning with the Child in a Coach; and that they faid they were going to St. Germain en Laye -- That they went in Quest of them to St. Germain en Laye, and feveral other Places, but to no Purpose; that the Father of the Child applied thereupon to the Curate, and laid before him all that had paffed; that the Curate applied to the Lieutenant of the Police for his Affiftance in discovering these Strangers; and that Enquiry was made in Consequence, but without Success.

This Story seemed to coincide in every Circumstance with the second C 6 Jour-

This Proceeding was represented as unprecedented, and highly injurious to Mr. Douglas, which caused the Lords of Session in Scotland to pronounce an Interlocutor, dated August the 22d, 1763, signifying their Disapprobation of Mr. Andrew Stewart's Conduct in commencing so illegal a Prosecution in France, and desiring that the Depositions of the Townelle Witnesses might be cangelled before their Evidence should

Miss BEVERLY. 37 should be admitted in the Douglas Cause.

The Tournelle Process was carried on with great Vigour, and a Monitoire had been posted up in all the public Streets of Paris, and read in all the Churches, setting forth, That certain Persons, whose Country, Ages and Figure were specified, had, in the Year 1748, carried off from Paris a male Child, born that Year; and requiring, that all those who knew any thing of such an Enlevement, should make their Revelations to their respective Curates, in Order to produce a Discovery.

It was not long before the Monitoire produced a remarkable Discovery. One Mignon, a Glass-grinder at Paris, gave in a Revelation to the Curate of his Parish.

Parish, the Purport of which was, That in July, 1748, and about the Middle of that Month, a Lady and Gentleman, who answered exactly to the Description given in the Monitoire of Sir John and Lady Jane, had carried away a Son of his, pretending, that the newborn Son of a Lady of their Acquaintance had just died unknown to his Mother; that they were under a Neceffity of concealing it from her for fome Time, as she was then very ill; and there was no other Way to effect this, but by procuring a Child to pass upon the Mother as her own. That he consented to let them have his, provided they would foon return the Child: This they promised, but he never faw them nor his Child fince. Revelations were also made by several Witnesses, who had been privy to the

4 10

Miss BEVERLY. 39 carrying off of Mignon's Child. These Discoveries were removed into the Tournelle, and seemed greatly to corroborate the Charge brought against Sir John Stewart and Mrs. Hewit.

Some Time after the Tournelle Process was dismissed by a Decree of the Court of Session in Scotland, and by a new Interlocutor of the same Court, a Proof was allowed, and Commissioners appointed to take it in feveral different Countries. The Proof once began, was profecuted with Vigour: Repositories were searched; all Letters, Papers and Writings, that were any way connected with the Cause, were produced and examined. In a Word, no Expence or Trouble was spared on either Side. By Virtue of their Lordships Commission, Evidence was procured

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scotland and England; there is, indeed, scarce a Country in Europe but what has furnished Witnesses to this important Cause.

In the mean Time, Mr. Douglas, having the Verdict of a Jury in his Favour, was put in full Possession of the Estate of his deceased Uncle: An Attempt was indeed made by the opposite Party to have the Estate sequestrated till: a Decision could be obtained; but it proved abortive.

In Consequence of a Petition of the Pursuers, Sir John Stewart was examined three successive Days before the Court of Session, in December 1762. He had just recovered from a dangerous Illness, by which his Memory, naturally none

none of the best, was greatly impaired. This he intimated to their Lordships, and requested that they would not take Advantage of every little Inconfiftency into which his defective Memory, old Age, Weakness of Mind, or Distance of Time, might betray him: His Declaration was uniform, and confiftent in the leading Point: In Circumstances of less Consequence, such as the Number of Mrs. Douglas's Nurses, &c. it not only contradicted itself, but the Deposition of Mrs. Hewit. Sir 7ohn Stewart died shortly after his judicial Declaration. Before his Death, he drew up a Declaration, properly attested, in which he folemnly called God to witness, that Mr. Douglas was the Offspring of him and Lady Jane. There cannot be a stronger Proof in Favour of Mr. Douglas than this: Is it at all

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stewart should have the Interest of a pretended Son so much at Heart, as to risk his eternal Salvation by uttering a Falsehood in his last Moments, in order to secure him the Possession of an Estate? It appears equally improbable, that Malice and Hatred to the Hamilton Family should have so powerful an Ascendant over him, as to make him utter an Untruth when upon the Verge of Eternity.

There was a very strong Proof in Favour of Mr. Douglas, of which mention has not yet been made: His Agents in the Course of their Enquiries at Paris discovered a House in an obscure Corner of the Fauxbourg, where one Madame La Brun (agreeing with the Description given by Sir John and Lady

Lady Jane) had lodged. They moreover indifputably proved by the Deposition of Menager, Surgeon to the Prince De Turenne, and other unexceptionable Witnesses, that in 1748 there lived at Paris a Man-midwife, of the Name of La Marre, who, in the Month of July, delivered a foreign Lady of Quality, at the House of Madame La Brun, of two Male Children, the eldest of whom returned to Rheims with his Mother: whilst the youngest was put by him to nurse. The Nurse of Sholto, at the Hauteborne, was found likewise. and the great Length of the Meno-

It is now high Time to return to the Proceedings which were depending before the Lords of the Seffion. -The Memorials of both Parties, which were ordered to be given in on the 27th of September, 1766, were, by unavoidThe Lords deferred advising the Cause till the Month of June following, on Account of its great Importance, and the great Length of the Memorials, and in the mean Time directed the Parties to make such Observations on each other's Memorials as they should think proper: In June, 1767, additional Memorials were given in by both Parties; Mrs. Ifabel Walker, afterwards Mrs.

Glass,

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Glass, who attended Lady Jane to France, was examined in Court; and the Cause was once more delayed to be advised till the 7th of July, when the Lord President opened the Debate with a very elegant Speech, wherein he declared himself openly in Favour of the Family of Hamilton. The Debate lasted till Tuesday the 14th, when the Family of Hamilton carried their Cause by the Prefident's casting Vote. From this Decree of the Court of Session, Mr. Douglas has entered an Appeal to the House of Lords; and the decisive Sentence of that Supreme Tribunal is expected with Impatience. However, as a Verdict founded on the Evidence produced at the first Trial had been pronounced in Favour of Mr. Douglas, the Facts deposed to by the Witnesses must remain in full Force till the Evidence -quid 1

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dence is falsified, and the Verdict annulled by a final Decision, establishing the Truth of the Pursuers Allegations, and the Reality of the Imposture.



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ord President opened the Bedate with

CHAP. III.

A T subsequent Interviews I learned and many more Particulars from Mr. Douglas, which threw new Light upon this complicated and intricate Cause. It is customary in France for pregnant Women to recommend themselves to the Prayers of the Convent; Lady Jane, who made several Visits to that of St. Genevieve at Paris, deferred recommending herself to the Prayers of the Nuns till the last. My Aunt and I hap-

I happening to visit this Convent some Time after, made Enquiry concerning Lady Jane Douglas of some of the Nuns; they all remembered her very well: They told us they were ftruck with her Appearance, and could not help entertaining Scruples of the Suspicion which suggested itself, as they at that Time knew nothing of her Marriage with Sir John Stewart. They added, that she afterwards recommended herself to their Prayers with an Air of the fincerest Piety, Ill as lowe to aled

Here is a strong Proof of the Pregnancy of Lady Jane, which those of the adverse Party have vainly attempted to invalidate; but I myself happened soon after to meet with a stronger Proof in Favour of Mr. Douglas's Birth, than any which has been hitherto produced. In

a Visit

a Visit I happened to make in Company with my Aunt to an elderly Lady who lived in the Fauxbourg St. Antoin, the Conversation happened to turn upon the Douglas Caufe, which Mr. Douglas, being then at Paris, rendered a very general Topick of Conversation in that City. Madame Du Breil, for that was the Name of the Lady, declared the never knew a Case more worthy of Compassion than that of Mr. Douglas; that it was a thousand Pities he should be kept out of an Estate, to which he had an indubitable Right; for that nothing could be more certain than that he was the real Offspring of Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas. Upon my taking the Liberty to ask Madame Du Breil how she could be so positive with regard to the Reality of Mr. Douglas's Birth, she told me, that she had

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had known Monsieur La Marre, the Man-midwife, during his Life-time; that he had attended her twice in Childbed; and that she had often heard him relate the whole Story of Lady Jane's Delivery, which happened at Madame La Brun's, in the Fauxbourg St. Germain. Madame Dubreil added, that Monsieur La Marre spoke frequently both of Sir John Stewart and Lady Fane; and that he represented them as Persons, who in their Conversation. and all their most trifling Actions, difcovered the highest Sense of Honour. and the greatest Abhorrence of all Deceit and Imposture.

How different is this from the artful Character given of Lady Jane by the opposite Party? According to them, Deceit was her chief Characteristick.

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They make great Use of the Hoop said to be worn by her during her Pregnancy, which she had Recourse to, according to them, in order to savour the Imposture. No Dress, no Conduct of Lady Jane, could have escaped the Misrepresentations of the Pursuers. The very Idea of her being guilty of the Crime of counterfeiting a Birth, creates a Persuasion that every Step she took during its Perpetration, and even before it, must have a direct Tendency to promote that Crime.

I not long after met with some other Persons well acquainted with the whole Affair of Mr. Douglas's Birth, whose Accounts of it were equally in his Favour, and proved that there could be no Imposture in the Case; but these I shall reserve to the next Chapter.

CHAP.

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CHAP. IV.

CHANCE brought me acquaint-ed with Lieutenant Mackenzie, who was then at Paris, and who affured me that Lady Jane had all the Symptoms of Pregnancy when she was at Rheims; nay, he went so far as even to declare, that she was then so bulky, that Major Maclean and he were obliged to lift her into the Stage-Coach. Mr. Mackenzie always bore the Character of a Man of Honour and Veracity; and his Testimony should, doubtless, have more Weight than that of the Passengers in the Stage-Coach, whose Evidence amounts to no more, than that they gave so little Attention to a Woman they never faw before nor fince, that it was impossible for them

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at such a Distance of Time to recollect whether she was apparently with Child or not.

The Abbé Hibert, to whom I was introduced by Mr. Mackenzie, affured me likewife, that Lady Jane was with Child when she lodged at his Sister's; it is therefore hardly credible that the latter should be so ignorant of it, as she pretended to be:

The Witnesses already cited appear to be more than sufficient to put the Pregnancy of Lady Jane out of all manner of Doubt; but another offered soon after, whose Testimony would have been sufficient to determine any Court to decide in Favour of Mr. Douglas.

My Aunt happening to want a Housemaid, hired an elderly Woman, whose Name was Marie Pillon: she was a Native of one of the French Colonies in America, from whence she was just then returned, after a two Year's Residence, to Paris, where she had passed the greatest Part of her Life. She had not been long in the Family, when Mr. Douglas happened to pay my Aunt a Visit. No sooner was he gone, but she told us that she remembered him a Child; and that she knew his Father and Mother, Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas : That she had been Mr. Archibald Douglas's first Nurse; that she was chosen for that Purpose, as the lived in La Brun's Family at the Time of the Delivery; concerning every Circumstance of which she gave us a cir-

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cumstantial Account. She informed us, fhe did not continue long in Sir John's Family, as her Health declined, and she was obliged to go to live with a Relation who was fettled in a remote Part of the Kingdom. My Aunt having heard this Account from Marie Pillon, gave Information of it to Mr. Douglas, who was rejoiced at meeting with a Person who might be a very important Witness when his Cause should be tried before the House of Lords; and her Testimony would have undoubtedly been of great Service to him if she had lived; but she died of a Fever about a Fortnight after.

Thus have I laid before the Reader all the Information which I could procure concerning this important Affair; and I doubt not, but that whoever duly weighs

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weighs the Testimony of the sormer Witnesses, consirmed and corroborated by that of Madame Dubreil and Marie Pillon, will entertain as little Doubt of the Reality of his Birth as I do; and will wish him Success with equal Ardour, as he is a Gentleman endowed with the most amiable personal Qualifications, and in every Respect worthy of succeeding to the Honours and Estate of the ancient and noble Family of Douglas.

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on entertained me field a such his being ray Admirer Career a very Variety and the property of the American with a Suiter of his Tears, and the defined of again anguaging the Americanical and against and against the Americanical and against anguaging the American

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CHAP. V.

HE Adventures of others have fo long engroffed my Attention, that I have for fome Time loft Sight of my own; I shall therefore now return to what relates to myself, and lay before the Reader all that befel me, after continued Diffipation and a Variety of new Occurrences as well as Acquaintances had moderated my excessive Grief for La Fleur.

Monsieur De Voltaire's Conversation entertained me highly; and his being my Admirer, flattered my Vanity; but I could not be fatisfied with a Suitor of his Years, and was desirous of again engaging the Attention Miss BEVERLY. 57 tion of those whose Age seemed better suited to the amorous Passion.

It was not long before I was once more furrounded with a Crowd of Admirers, who all acted the passionate Lover with equal Earnestness, but were all equally unsuccessful in persuading me of the Sincerity of their Passion. I had no Liking for any of them myself, and was therefore convinced that none of them could feel any real Affection for me. I however resolved to divert myself with them, and in their Absence Toinon and I diverted ourselves with their Characters.

One of the most remarkable of those who at this Time paid their Addresses to me, was the Chevalier D'Arc, a Grandson of Lewis XIV.

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This Gentleman is the natural Son of the Count De Thoulouse, who was the natural Son of that Monarch by Madame De Montespan. Having run out all his Fortune, except four thousand Livres a Year, he had Recourse to the Expedient of turning Author, in order to increase it, but with as little Success as many others who have endeavoured to acquire Fortunes or Reputation by the same Means. He was concerned in a literary Journal, called Le Journal Etranger; the Design of which was, to give a general Idea of the State of Literature in foreign Countries, by an Abstract from all the foreign Books deferving Notice published within the Course of each Month. For this Purpose the Chevalier kept in pay a certain Number of Authors inferior to him in Rank, who wrote for his

his Journal Etranger, and made Extracts from Books in all the Languages of Europe, at the moderate Price of a Louis d'Or for each printed Sheet. This foreign Journal twice fell, and was twice re-established; but at last fell never to rise again, which was partly owing to there being about the same Time another Journal Etranger fet on foot by the Abbé Freron, Author of a periodical Criticism, published every Month at Paris, and known there by the Title of La Feuille de Freron. Though the Chevalier was unsuccessful in this Undertaking, he has from Time to Time published Works that have been well received in the World, and by which he has been considerably a Gainer. It is indeed but doing him Justice to acknowledge, that he is a Man D 6 of

of some Genius. His Figure likewife is by no Means contemptible; he is in Stature about the middle Size, his Hair and Eyes are black, and his Complexion fwarthy; but there is fomething grand and noble in his Face and Air, which sufficiently shew to any Person of Discernment, that he must be of noble Birth. The same Grandeur and Majesty is conspicuous in his Deportment as well as his Shape; and indeed, if Dignity could inspire Love, there could not be a more amiable Person than the Chevalier. Dignity, however, is not capable of exciting that Passion; so that though I esteemed the Chevalier more than his Rivals, it was imposfible for me to make the Return he defired to his Passion. My other Suitors were all inferior to him in personal

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personal Accomplishments, though some of them had the Advantage of him in Point of Fortune. One of them, a Gentleman of Gascony, was very much in Favour with my Aunt, being possessed of an Estate of forty thousand Livres a Year; but I could not endure him, as he was one of the most vain and ridiculous of Mortals. I now almost despaired of meeting with a Man worthy of my Love: Since my coming to France, I had only met with one who could inspire me with tender Sentiments, and he fell a Victim to the Fury of an incenfed Rival.

Whilst Love proved thus unfavourable to me, an Accident happened, by which I was deprived of a Companion, whose Conversation I esteemed one

one of the greatest Pleasures of my Life. As Toinon and I were one Day taking the Air in my Aunt's Chariot, it was overturned about two Leagues from Paris. It happened luckily for us that two Gentlemen were just then riding by, who immediately alighted, and coming to our Relief, exerted themfelves in fuch a Manner in affifting us, that we escaped without receiving any Hurt. As foon as our Terror was fomewhat abated, and we were beginning to recover ourselves, I was furprized to fee Toinon suddenly faint away in the Arms of one of the Gentlemen who had come fo luckily to our Aid. When she was come to herself, she cried out in an Exstasy of Transport, " My dear De la Rose, " is it you?" To this the other anfwered, " 'Tis I, your faithless De " la

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" la Rose, who left you through In-

" constancy for an abandoned Wo-

" man, who foon forfook me for an-

" other. It was not long before my

" former Paffion again took Poffef-

" fion of my Heart, and I fought

" you every where without Success;

" but Fate has joined us again, and

" nothing now but Death shall part

"That the Acress, with whom he These Words were uttered with fo much Tenderness, and accompanied with fuch warm Embraces, that I could not help being highly affected with them. The other Gentleman proposed that we should all adjourn to the next Inn, which was not far distant; the Motion was approved of, we repaired to the Ruberge, where we ordered a Dinner to be got ready with-

without Delay. Whilst it was preparing, De la Rose renewed his Protestations of the most ardent Love to Toinen, who returned his Demonstrations of Passion with all the Sympathy of Affection. Dinner being over, Toinon expressed a Defire to know what had befallen Monfieur De la Rose since their Separation at Valenciennes; whereupon he told her, "That the Actress, with whom he " had eloped, forfook him about two " Months after for a German Baron: as and that this Inftance of Incon-" stancy, which had no other Cause " but the superior Opulence of his " Rival, had filled him with fuch a " Contempt for his new Miftress, " as totally extinguished the Love " with which she had at first inspired " him." He added, "That his Paf-" fion

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" fion for Toinon immediately refumed

" its first Ascendant over his Heart;

" and that having received Permif-

" absent himself from the Regiment,

" he returned to Valenciennes, and

" made the strictest Enquiry he could

" after her to no Purpose. That

" thereupon he went back to the

" Regiment, which foon after re-

" ceived Orders to march to Mar-

" seilles in Provence, as it is the Policy

of the French Government to make

" the Regiments in their Service shift

" Quarters frequently; and at the

" same Time Care is taken that the

" new Quarters affigned them should

" be at a confiderable Diftance from

" those they quit. The Reason for

" this Procedure is, to prevent the

" Soldiers from forming Connexions

" in

in the Towns where they are placed " in Garrison, and contracting the "Spirit of Citizens, which would " not fail to give Umbrage to a " despotic Prince. I had not been " long at Marfeilles, continued Mon-" fieur De la Rose, where a deep " Melancholy constantly preyed up-" on my Heart, when my Father, " the Major, dying, I became pof-· " fessed of an Estate of twenty thou-" fand Livres a Year. I immedi-" ately quitted the Service, which was grown highly disagreeable to me, as I could no longer bear a " Part in the Mirth and Gaiety of my Brother-Officers, and retiring to my Estate, which is in the Lyonnois, I there lived a retired Life, and thought all the Remainder of my Days devoted to a fad Re-

" péntance

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" pentance for the Loss of a Mistress, whom my foolish Inconstancy made "me forsake, and whom I then loved "more than ever. Having for several "Years led this melancholy Life, "mourning in Absence the eternal "Night of Love, I was at last called "to Paris by a Law-Suit, which though "it may be attended with the Loss "of a considerable Part of my Estate,

"I shall always look upon as a happy

" Event, fince it has restored to me

of have fo long regretted; and that at

" a Time when the stood in need

configur Relief, when wearled by the

of my Affiftance."

Here Mons. De la Rose ended his Narrative, and in about an Hour after Toinon and I set out for Paris in our Chariot, Mons. De la Rose, and his Friend

Friend riding on each Side of it. I had given Monf. De le Rose and the other a general Invitation to my Aunt's, where we were frequently visited by them both; but the Affair which had caused the former to quit his Province and come to Paris. being at last fettled to his Satisfaction. the fet out for his Seat in the Lyonneis with Toinen, who shed Tears when the took her Leave of me: My Grief was equal at being deprived of a Companion who was rendered dear to me by her Attachment to my Person, and whose Chearfulness and Good-humour had afforded me constant Relief, when wearied by the Pursuit of Pleasure, or croffed by Disappointments: My Rogret was however confiderably alleviated, upon reflecting that the had again found the

MIS REVERIX 69

the Lover she had lost; that she had reclaimed the inconstant Rover; and that she was upon the Point of being united to the Man she so sincerely loved; for Mons. De la Reser had promised to marry her upon their Arrival at his Seat in the Lyouneis: And in about a Month after their Departure, Toinen informed me, by Letter; that the Nuptials had been solemnized.

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CHAP. VI.

Mons. Rochard, the Name of the Gentleman who was in Mons. De la Rose's Company when the Accident taken Notice of in the last Chapter befel us, continued to reside at Paris, and paid me frequent Visits at my Aunt's. I could easily perceive that his Visits were entirely upon my Account; for the Tenderness of his Behaviour, and his amorous Glances, convinced me that I had made an Impression upon his Heart.

If my Charms had kindled the Flame of Love in the Breast of Rochard, he was by no means indifferent to me. He was, indeed, a very amiable

CHAP.

able young Man, and a Woman must be infensible who could fee him without feeling Emotions of Pleasure. He had fine light Hair, and his Complexion was extremely fair; there was a Mildness in his Countenance, and a Sweetness in his Eyes, which shewed him born to infpire the Passion of Love. His Asfiduity in visiting me could not be furpassed, and the Tenderness of his Behaviour scarce left me any Room to doubt of the Ardour of his Affection. The only Circumstance which surprised me was, that he never entered into any formal Declaration of his Passion. I thought this might be owing to Timidity or Diffidence, though those are Qualities of which I had hitherto scarce observed any Traces amongst the French, neggi

French, and I lived in daily Expectation that he would at last declare himself: I knew that if he did, my Aunt could form no Objection; for he was possessed of a large Estate in Burgundy, and Wealth was the only Article she took into Consideration.

The foft and infinuating Behaviour of Rechard had made me almost conclude that I had met with what I had been so long in Quest of, a Man worthy of my Love; and I wished to be made happy, by being entirely put out of Doubt with regard to the Reality of his Sentiments; when all of a sudden he discontinued his Visits at my Aunt's, and I was a whole Month without seeing him. At the Expiration.

ration of that Term, I, to my great Surprize, received Information that he was married to the Daughter of a Farmer-General, as noted for her Beauty, as her great Fortune.

This Instance of French Inconstancy made me despair of meeting
with a Man deserving of my Affections amongst that light People; yet
I was, perhaps, myself in the wrong in
judging from Rochard's Behaviour,
that he loved me, as he had never
made any express Declaration of his
Passion, and I could only infer it
from outward Appearances, which
are often equivocal.

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Surprize, received Information that

HITHERTO I had been unfortunate in my Amours; but a more cruel Reverse of Fortune was approaching. My Aunt, who, as the Reader has been already informed, had a strong Tincture of Superstition in her Character, had taken into her House, as a spiritual Guide and Director, Pere de la Tourilliere, one of the Fathers of the Oratory. In Roman Catholic Countries, Confessors and Directors often acquire a despotic Power in the Families where they get Footing, and even dispose of the Fortunes of those who are weak

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enough

Miss BEVERLY. 75 enough to divest themselves of their Liberty and Understanding, and suffer themselves to be directed by them in their temporal as well as spiritual Concerns.

Pere de la Tourilliere, a most sanctissed Exterior, who possessed all the Arts of Insinuation in the highest Persection, was as great a Hypocrite as Tartusse, and had gained such an Ascendant over the Mind of my Aunt, that he, at last, could persuade her to whatever he pleased: She saw only with his Eyes; heard only with his Ears; and entertained no Sentiments but such as he thought proper to inspire her with. This

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did

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did not at first create me much Uneasiness, as I was too thoughtless to foresee the ill Consequence which it afterwards gave Rife to: And as to Father De la Tourilliere, who was a very artful Man, and could adapt himfelf to the Temper of all with whom he conversed; he, for a Time, by his plausible Discourse, acquired my good Opinion so far, that I never once suspected he concealed the defigning Villain, under the Mask of Piety, till I felt the Effects of his dark Machinations, by which I was plunged in Ruin, almost before I was aware of my Danger.

As this Director was highly inftrumental in causing that Reverse of Fortune

and productive of some Connexions, of which I shall ever retain a tender Remembrance, notwithstanding the importunate Ideas that they recal when I recollect them: I have. however, learned by Experience, that even the greatest Calamities and Miffortunes are attended with some secret Confolation, or productive of fome real Advantage which fufficiently shew that they are sent by a benevolent Being, who does not take Pleasure in afflicting Evil upon his Creatures without a Cause, and who shews them frequent Gleams of Mercy in the Midft of his Rigours and Severities.

To return to my Adventures: I had conceived fo strong a Prejudice against French Inconstancy, that I had almost formed a Resolution never to listen again to the Addreffes of a Lover of that Nation; but Cupid, who makes Sport of the Defigns formed by Lovers, foon found Means to make me change my Purpose: An elderly Gentleman, whose Name was Marefball, and who was very rich, being one of the thriving Body of Farmers-General, became acquainted with my Aunt about this Time, and paid her frequent Visits: A Conformity in religious Principles was the Cement of their Friendship. They were both

E 4

of the Jansenist Party, a Sect which, like that of the Methodists amongst us, has a Jargon peculiar to itself. Notwithstanding Monsieur Mareshall's Rank and Opulence, I could not help despising him; for his Converfation confifted almost entirely in the visionary Suggestions of Superstition and Enthusiasm; and his Manners were low and vulgar. He had been originally a Footman, and from being Clerk in a Farmer-General's Office, had rose by a slow Gradation to that great and envied Station. There is nothing which more furprizes a Stranger, who makes the Manners and Customs of the French the Subject of his Observation, than

MIG BEVERLY. 81 the great Meanness which discovers itfelf in the Behaviour of many of the Farmers-General, though they are next to the Princes of the Blood, and the Grandees of the Kingdom, in Opulence; but the Surprize ceases when he is informed, that many of them have risen to that Height from the lowest and meanest Offices. Monf. Mareshall was amongst those who do very little Honour to the high Rank of a Financier; and nothing inspired me with a more contemptible Idea of him, than his ridiculous Superstition: He believed as firmly in the Miracles faid to be worked at the Tomb of the Abbé Paris, as those recorded in the Gos-E 5 pel;

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pel; and when Corpus Christi Day came, he feldom failed to tell a Story of some pious Jensenist, who, by Faith, had been cured of a Difease, by getting himself carried into the Street, at the Time the Sacrament was carried by. When this old Religionist visited my Aunt, the Conversation between them and the Director, Father De la Tourilliere, turned entirely upon Jansenism, a Subject which afforded me but little Amusement, as the fimultaneous Concurrence, pure Love, and the other Terms of the Jargon of the Sect, were utterly unintelligible to me.

It was not, however, long before I received an abundant Compensation for

Mifs BEVERLY. for the Ennui which these tedious Conversations cost me: Monf. Mareshall introduced his Son at my Aunt's, a young Gentleman as polite and accomplished as his Father was vulgar, ignorant, and disagreeable. Young Mr. Marefall was fo amiable and fo genteel, that I find myself unable to give the Reader an adequate Idea of his Beauty by Description. The greatest Painter would find himself at a Loss to represent his Eyes upon Canvas; I shall not therefore vainly attempt with my Pen, what the Pencil itself is unequal to: Let it suffice to fay, that the Figure of Monf. Mareshall was such, that no Woman could fee him with Indifference, without being E 6 infenfi-

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insensible. As Insensibility was never a Part of my Character, I could not behold this amiable Youth without finding the Resolution which I had formed, of never entering into a Love Engagement with any of his Countrymen, immediately vanish into Air. On young Maresball's second Visit, I again felt the pleasing Influof Love, and yielded up my Soul to its Power.

It was with the highest Pleasure I perceived from the tender Looks of Marefhall, that he made the Return I defired to my Love. Every Glance convinced me that his Passion was equal to mine; and this Persuasion · Bushui

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Mis BEVERLY. was quickly followed by an earnest Defire to have an Interview with the Object of my Love. It was a high Addition likewife to the Felicity I received from finding that Mareshall's Passion corresponded with mine; to find that he defired an Interview as eagerly as myself; for I soon received a Letter from him, in which he declared the tender Sentiments of his Heart, with all the warmest Expressions of the most sincere Pasfion, and discovered the most ardent Defire of feeing me, when he might feel no Restraint from the Presence of his Father, but be at Liberty to pour out the Effusions of his Soul, and freely utter all that Love inspired him with. Since

Since my Separation from Toinon, whose Loss I always regretted, I had hired a Servant-maid, named Beaumenard; I was indifcreet enough to shew her the Letter I had received from young Marefall, and to make her the Confidante of my Passion for him. This I severely repented afterwards, as the Reader will see in its proper Place. I wrote an Answer to the Letter I had received from my new Lover, in which, without exceeding the Reserve which Modesty prescribes to our Sex, I gave him all the Encouragement he could reafonably expect; but how to procure an Interview, I did not know; and he himself could suggest no Expedient for that Purpose.

I ac-

MIS BEVERLY. 87

I acquainted Beaumenard with my Perplexity, and she proposed the House of a Relation of her's, who was a Marchande de Mode, or Milliner, in Montmorency-Street, as a Place where I might meet Mr. Mareshall without the least Danger of our Interview being ever discovered by my Aunt. This was the first Time I laboured under the Necessity of carrying on an Intrigue in a private and concealed Manner. I was therefore somewhat shocked at the Proposal; but Love overcame my Discretion, and I consented that Beaumenard should acquaint my Lover I was to be at the House of Madame Le Blanc on a Day agreed on between us, when he might be certain to find Admittance.

If I had not received his Visits in this secret Way, I should never have enjoyed his Company, except in the Presence of his Father and my Aunt, which would have put a great Constraint upon our Loves; for he could not openly pay me his Addresses, as his Father had resolved to marry him to Mademoiselle De la Valle, the Daughter of another Farmer of the Revenues, who vied in Opulence with himself.

I don't doubt but I shall incur the Censure of many of my Sex, and be looked upon as guilty of an unpardonable Indiscretion, for giving any Encouragement to the Addresses of a Man

Mifs BEVERLY. 89

Man circumstanced as young Mareshall was; and still more, for confenting to meet him in a secret Manner at the House of a Milliner. They will most probably think that I have no Body but myself to blame for all the ill Consequences which followed, and all the Obloquy to which I was afterwards exposed to; as such Meetings had all the Appearance of Affignations; and our Intercourse, however innocent, might be easily made to pass for a criminal Amour. I will not pretend to justify my Conduct, or vainly attempt to reconcile it to the Laws of Prudence. However innocent my Intentions were, I own I was guilty of a false Step; for there

90 HISTORY of cannot be a truer Observation than that of Shakespeare in Hamlet;

The chaftest Maid is prodigal enough,
If she unmask her Beauties to the Moon.

I flattered myself, however, that I had not put my Considence in People who would betray me; for both Beaumenard and Mademoiselle Le Blanc were well feed by myself and my Lover, and both discovered all the Zeal and Officiousness of Persons devoted to my Service; but I afterwards found, by melancholy Experience, that too great Security is the Height of Folly; and that Virtue is a weak Defence to a Woman's Ho-

nour,

Miss BEVERLY. 91 nour, if there are even slight Appearances against her.

Mareshall at Le Blanc's, where he made me the most warm Professions of a Love which Time should never alter or diminish; and as my Passion was equal to his, I returned his ardent Affection with all the Warmth that Decency would permit. But the Perplexity of us both was equal. His Dependency upon a Father, who had destined him for another Woman, rendered a Match between us impossible. As we were thus circumstanced, our Prudence dictated to us to discontinue a Connexion which could be

92 HISTORY of productive of no Good to either; but Prudence and Love are irreconcileable.

We continued our Interviews at Le Blanc's, where we condoled with each other, and mourned the Hardness of our Fate, which rendered it impossible for us to join in Hymen's Bands, though our Hearts were united by Tyes of the tenderest Affection. For my Part, I thought myself the most unfortunate of Women, in having met with a Man who appeared deserving of my Love, but whom Fate had made it impossible for me to be ever united to.

However hard as my Lot then appeared, it foon became more fo; for I was shortly after deprived of the Company of my Lover, young Mareshall being seized and put in Confinement by a Lettre de Câchet, procured by his Father, who was informed of our Meetings by that artful Villain, Father De la Tourilliere, who had gained over the perfidious Beaumenard and Le Blanc, by whom we had all along been fold and betrayed. Career, and thrown into Co

where, as it is faid, they are frequent As many of my Readers may not know the Nature of a Lettre de Câchet, I shall here explain it. It is one of the most dreadful Mysteries in the despotic

despotie Government of France. It fignifies an Order given by the King. and figned with the Great Seal, by Virtue of which, any Person whatever may be arrested and confined in the Bastille, frequently for Life. Befides, those who are imprisoned upon Lettres de Câchet as Criminals of State. nothing is more common than for Persons who have Interest at Court, to get any Relation who gives them Umbrage taken up upon a Lettre de Câchet, and thrown into Confinement; where, as it is faid, they are frequently dispatched afterwards by Poison; infomuch that in France there is a more dreadful Despotism than either that of the State Inquisition at Venice, or of the

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the religious Inquisition in Italy, Spain, and Portugal; for Instances have been known of above thirty or forty Perfons being seized at once and thrown into the Bastille, merely upon a bare Suspicion.

Thus was I by a sudden and unforeseen Stroke deprived of a Lover, for whom I had formed the most pleasing Ideas; and the Dissatisfaction that naturally flowed from such a Disappointment, was greatly heightened by the very distant Prospect of Relief, especially when it is considered, that all Communication is generally precluded the Friends of those that are consined there. But my Sufferings did

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Mis BEVERLY.

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was I by a sudden and un.

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ened by the most atrocious Calumny, and my Reputation blasted, as the Reader will see more particularly and circumstantially related, with various other Incidents of a most peculiar Nature, in the next Chapter.

for whom I had formed the most for whom I had formed the most pleasing Ideas; and the Diffaciafaction that naturally flowed from such a Diffaciafaction specially was greatly regulated by the very calant frospect of Resief, especially whom it is considered, that all Communication is generally precladed the French of those that are consider that, but my Sufferings did consider that,

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIX.

THERE cannot be a more serious Truth than the common Observation, that Misfortunes never come alone, which is so admirably expressed by Shakespeare in those emphatical Words,

When Sorrows come, they come not fingle Spies,

But in Battalions

I was deprived of a Lover, who had made a strong Impression upon my Heart, and the Manner of my losing him greatly aggravated my Sorrow for his Loss. He was put in Consinement by virtue of a Lettre de Cachet procured by a rigid Father, and I could not help representing to my Imagination, a Vol. II. F young

young Man withering in his Bloom, and fuffering all the Miseries of Imprisonment, which presented themselves to my Imagination with aggravated Horrors, because I considered them as occasioned by myself.

But the Loss of a Lover was not the only Misfortune I had to undergo. After having long lived in Luxury and Affluence, passed my Nights in all the Pleasures of Voluptuousness, and never waked but to a joyful Morn, I was on a sudden plunged deep in Poverty, and reduced to contend with all the Storms of Indigence and Dependence.

The first Frown of Fortune I experienced was the being deprived of the Favour of my Aunt, and thereby not only

only loofing a Friend, but for ever forfeiting all Hopes of her immense Fortune, the Reversion of which I had always confidered as my own. Father de la Tourilliere, who, as the Reader has feen in the last Chapter, was an artful, defigning Man, had long fince gained fuch an Afcendant over my Aunt, that he could perfuade her to believe whatever he pleafed; as foon as he perceived young Mareshall's Passion for me, he made her notice it; by putting a malicious Construction upon all our Glances, and even Gestures, difposed her to credit what he afterwards afferted with Confidence, that Maresball had made a Conquest of my Honour, and that our Interviews at Madam de Blanc's were criminal. Having corrupted my Maid, the mercenary Wretch betrayed me, and gave him Infor-F2

Information when my Lover and I were to have our Interviews. My Aunt was prevailed upon to go privately with him to the Milliner's, where, from the Apartment next to that where we met, she could hear the warm Professions of Love which young Mareshall made me; and as they all proceeded from the Ebullitions of a Heart which glowed with the most ardent Transports of Passion, she took it for granted that there was a foregone Conclusion, that I had deviated from the Paths of Virtue, and could never more return to it. My Aunt, who, as the Reader has already been informed, was of a rigid, severe Temper, being convinced that I had forfeited my Honour, and that my Difgrace was irreparable, declared, that she would no longer countenance one, who had **fwerved**

fwerved from the dictates of Virtue; but that she would from that Hour consider me as an Alien, both to her Love and Blood; I did not vainly attempt to vindicate myself, as I knew with what Obstinacy my Aunt, the old Lady, perfifted in any Resolution she had formed, and how difficult it was to undeceive her when once she had conceived an Opinion, however flight its Foundations. I therefore immediately left the House, as she had sufficiently intimated her Intention that I fhould no longer live with her, took Lodgings in la Rue de St. Dominique, being attended only by one Servant, and a new Maid, whom I had hired in the Room of the treacherous Creature who had fold me to Father de la Tourilliere. She had lived Servant at Madam le Blanc's, who was kind enough to inform. F 3

form me of the Treachery by which I was circumvented.

I thought my Condition highly deplorable, but I had not yet experienced the Worst; I found myself in a foreign Country, abandoned by the only Friend I had, and that with such Circumstances as could not fail of giving the World a very disadvantageous Idea of me. I resolved therefore to make no Stay in France, but to return with Speed to England; and there was nothing I dreaded more than that my Aunt should represent me to my Father in the Light in which I appeared to her.

I was preparing to return to England, deeply affected with the Calamities which had already befallen me, when Fortune by another Stroke reduced me almost

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almost to Despair; when all Things were ready for my Departure, I received a Letter from my Sister, by which I was informed that my Father was become Bankrupt, that I was by his Failure cut off from all Hopes of ever possessing that Fortune, with the Hopes of which I had always flattered my Imagination. Let the Reader, if he can, form to himself an Idea of the Poignancy of my Grief. I find myfelf utterly unable to give an adequate Description of it; so many reiterated Misfortunes would have been fufficient to have made the most resolute of Men fink under their Weight; they may therefore well be thought fufficient to overwhelm the Weakness of a Woman. I have often fince been furprized that they did not totally deprive me of my

F 4 Senses,

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Senses, or make me take some desperate Resolution.

When the Agitation of my Spirits, and the Violence of my Grief, were fome Meafure subsided, I began to reflect what Course it was best for me to take; and immediately altered my Purpose of returning to England; for my native Country is the last Place I should chuse to appear in, when reduced and in an humble Condition. My next Thoughts were turned to the State of my Finances. My Sifter had fent me a Bill of Exchange for Three hundred Pounds Sterling in the Letter which contained the melancholy News above-mentioned, and, either in Cash or Jewels, I had to the Value of Eight hundred Pounds more. I immediately left Paris, which now only recalled importunate Ideas of

my former Splendour, and retired to Rouen, where I lived for some Time privately; my Memory always fuggesting gloomy Reflexions upon my past Wealth and Grandeur, and Hope presenting to my Mind no soothing Prospect for the Time to come, I had flattered myself that the lenient Hand of Time would diminish my Regret of past Pleasures and the Opulence I had loft; but I found, on the contrary, that it increased it every Day. I had been so long used to a constant Round of Pleasures and Delights, that the retired Manner in which I lived filled me with the deepest Melancholy; I cannot convey a better Idea to the Reader of the State of my Mind than by those two expressive Lines in Shakespeare,

F 5

Life

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Life is as tedious as a twice told Tale, Vexing the dull Ear of a drowzy Man. King John.

Habit is a Kind of fecond Nature; fo that those who have been long accustomed to the Indulgence of their Passions, find the Austerity of Abstinence and a regular Life insupportable. This Confideration will, I hope, plead in my Favour, and fomewhat excufe my Conduct in the Opinion of the Reader, when I acknowledge, that I could not help liftening to the Propofals made me about this Time by a rich Merchant of Rouen, of living with him as his Mistress. Business had first given Rife to our Acquaintance; he foon discovered from my Circumstances, that his Proposal would be acceptable. With regard to personal Attractions, he

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was intirely destitute of them; but Wealth, which, from Habit and Education I was taught to consider as Ingredients indispensably necessary to human Happiness, gave him Charms which he did not possess, or, at present, made me overlook his Desects.

For a Time he made it his whole Study to please me, and spared no Expence to procure me every Day new Pleasures and Amusements; when he sound a constant Succession of sensual Enjoyments begin by Degrees to dissipate the Gloom which preyed upon my Mind, he expressed the highest Satisfaction; and attributing it to his successful Assiduity, had the Vanity to think himself a savoured Lover. I cannot deny, that I had a certain Degree of Friendship and Benevolence for him,

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him, as he accidentally contributed to fupply my Wants, or rather to procure me that Gratification of my Passions, which I was from long Use so much accustomed to, that to forego it was like being deprived of Life itself. But such Sentiments as these are very different from those which Love inspires. When we enjoy the Company of those we love, all our Wants are supplied; there is then, to use the emphatical expression of Mr. Pope,

No craving void left aching in the breaft.

Monf. Tourangeaux for several Months discovered an unabated Ardor of Passion, but it was not to continue always: Passions founded upon mere Sensuality, those in which the Person is almost the only.

Mifs BEVERLY. rog

only Object taken into Consideration, and the Qualities of the Mind over-looked or little attended to, are always sleeting and transient; they take their Rise in Caprice and end in Disgust.

Thus it happened in the present Case; Monf. Tourangeaux, who at first behaved to me with all the Complaifance of a Lover, began on a sudden to assume the lordly Airs and authoritative Tone of a Husband. If my first Fall from Opulence to the Bitterness of Adversity, and the Difficulties in which Indigence involves us, plunged me in an Abyss of Despair, which was succeeded by a fettled Dejection, to be deprived of my Empire over Man, whom I had so long: confidered as my Slave, and born to wear my Chains, appeared still to me more: dreadful: The first Time Tourangeaux: fpoke

fpoke to me in the peremptory Style of a Master, a Thunder-clap could not have produced a greater Effect upon my Spirits than his Words. My Heart funk within me, and I felt a Kind of Self-annihilation at finding myself degraded from a Goddess to a Mortal, and from the Idol become the abject Slave of Man: Yet fuch is the hard Condition of our Sex! the Mistress, when become a Wife, finds that the Lover and the Husband are Two different Persons: and when a kept Mistress depends upon her Gallant who lords it over her, and Love is not affifting to support the Union, wretched, doubly wretched is her Condition. I had not received fufficient Instruction in the School of Affliction to know how to behave in fuch and Emergency. As I had no real Affection for Tourangeaux, it was meer Weakness

Miss BEVERLY. III

in me to be affected with this Change in his Behaviour: for there cannot be a greater Folly in a Woman than to let those give her Pain who are incapable of giving her Pleafure; yet we find the Sex every Day guilty of this Folly; they fret themselves to Death at the Slights and Neglects of Men whom in their Hearts they fcorn and despise.

As I had no Love for Tourangeaux: and was of consequence intirely indifferent about receiving any Tokens of his, I should have overlooked his Caprice and given Way to his Passions: I should have studied his Temper and have endeavoured to avail myfelf of his Foibles; had I acted in this Manner, I might always have received the Affiftance I wanted from him, and partook of his Affluence, which would have had never-

anna?

never-failing Attractions, though his Person and his Love might justly excite my Aversion or Indifference. I was too indifcreet to pursue so prudent a Conduct; I discovered a Spirit which I fhould have suppressed, and revenged myself, for the Haughtiness with which he treated me, by shewing my Contempt for his Person in a covert Manner that is often more provoking than open Abuse and undisguised Reproaches. Though Tourangeaux's Passion for me was extinct, his Vanity was mortified by my Scorn, and he was piqued at discovering that he had never possessed my Heart, though I once possessed the most powerful Ascendant over his: This inflamed his Paffion into Fury, and made him at last degenerate into a downright Tyrant. The ill Qualities which he had before concealed under the Complaifance 4179 17

Mis BEVERLY. 113

fance of a Lover discovered themselves to me so plainly, now the Mask was thrown off, that he appeared to me in the most disadvantageous Light.

However the bad Opinion I had conceived of him was foon confiderably increased by my being acquainted with certain Anecdotes of his Conduct, which had hitherto remained unknown to me-Ever fince I had lived with Tourangeaux I had cultivated an Acquaintance with Maidemoiselle Tourangeaux his Sister, who was an agreable, sprightly Girl, of a very amusing Conversation; and I liked her the better, because I could discover both in the Features of her Face and in her Character a strong Refemblance to my old Favourite Toinon. Though she had frequently discovered an Inclination to talk freely of her Brother

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ther, to enter into a Detail of his Qualities, and the secret History of his Life, as I had always discouraged such Conversation whilst he behaved well to me, she had for that Reason constantly kept upon the Reserve. As soon as she perceived that my Opinion of her Brother was altered, she gave me such an Account of him, that if he had before appeared to me to be a bad Man, I asterwards looked upon him as a Monster.

She told me that he was a married Man; a Circumstance of which I had till then been ignorant; that he had used his Wife in the most barbarous Manner, though he had received with her a Portion of Two hundred thousand Livres, which had enabled him to carry on the extensive Commerce whereby he had

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had acquired the Fortune he was then possessed of, and had at last shut her up in a Convent, where she continued to lead a languishing Life without any Hopes of being ever fet at Liberty by her unrelenting Tyrant. When I heard this, I could not help reflecting with Horror upon the despotic Government of France, where not only the Court, but every Master of a Family, is invested with a Kind of inquisitorial Power, and a Father may have his Son confined by virtue of a Lettre de Cachet. or a Husband cause his Wife to be shur up in a Convent, without affigning any other Reason than their capricious Will. Happy are the English, who live undera Government where no fuch Incroachments upon Liberty, the first natural Right of Mankind, are permitted to take Place! if those amongst us, who

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are always censuring the Conduct of the Great and murmuring against the Administration, were to visit the Continent, they would soon be sensible of the Value of those Blessings which they now pay but too little Regard to.

Mademoiselle Tourangeaux continued to inform me that her Brother, after having shut up his Wife in the Convent of St. Agnes, about Two Miles from Rouen, had kept no less than Five Mistresses, by some of whom he had had Children; that they were all at first caressed and tenderly treated by him, but that he at last grew tired of them, and turned them out to the wide World to perish with Indigence and Distress.

C H A P. XXX.

out of Indigence and Miferry and put to Possetton of all the Joys of Afric-

THE Anecdotes which I had learned from Mademoiselle Tourangeaux, concerning her Brother, so increased my Aversion for him, that I determined not to live another Day in his House: I acquainted his Sifter with my Intention, and though she was forry to be deprived of my. Company, she could not but approve of the Resolution I had taken. When I intimated my Purpose to Tourangeaux, he at first stormed and raved like a Madman, he bitterly upbraided me with his past Favours, and declared that I was the most ungrateful of Women to forfake a Man by whose Bounty I had been extricated

out of Indigence and Misery, and put in Possession of all the Joys of Affluence and all the Gratifications of Senfe. I replied no other Way to this Storm of Passion than by manifesting a determined Purpose of persisting in the Defign I had formed; whereupon he, to my great Surprise, again refumed the fupplicating Tone of a Lover, which long fince changed for he had the imperious Stile of a Master, and had Recourse to Blandishments and Intreaties to prevail upon me to change my Resolution. I could not easily conceive the Reason why he should discover so earnest a Desire of keeping Posfession of my Person, as I was well aware that his Heart had been for some Time intirely alienated from me; but I afterwards discovered, from having formed a Variety of Connexions, and being

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being placed in several different Situations in Life, fometimes basking in the Sunshine of Prosperity, and sometimes struggling with Difficulties and Distress, that there is no Passion more general amongst Mankind, than the Defire of having a Dependent. The lowest and most despicable Wretches wish to have fome One still lower than themselves to vent their Humour on, and confole them for their own Littleness by a Comparifon with another's Inferiority: Hence it is, that fo many shed Tears for the Loss of those whom, to judge by their Behaviour, One would have thought they hated and despised; their Grief is caused by Nothing else but their being deprived of the dear Delight of tormenting a Fellow-creature. When Tourangeaux found I was inflexible, he left the Room with a fullen, mortified Air, muttering fome-

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fomething about Ingratitude and Revenge, which I could not distinctly hear. His Sister expressed some Apprehensions for me on account of his Menaces; but as I was conscious of my Innocence I utterly disregarded them.

Having taken my Leave of Mademoiselle Tourangeaux, I that Evening left her Brother's House, and took Apartments in la Rue de Rosier. My first Plunge into Vice, for I looked upon my Connexion with Tourangeaux in that Light, as I thereby rendered what seemed a Love-engagement subservient to Interest, had so habituated my Mind to the Idea of it, that I wofully experienced the Truth of Mr. Pope's Observation;

Intro (

vice violed All, mountaing

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Vice is a Monster of so odious Mien, As to be hated, needs but to be seen: But seen too oft, familiar with her Face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

I will frankly acknowledge, that my Defign was to embrace the first Opportunity of making the best Market of my Beauty, and if I should not meet with a Man worthy of my Love, endeayour at least to find one whose Love for me I might be able to turn to Account. A Woman who keeps a constant Lookout for Admirers, is not long to feek amongst that volatile People the French. Before the Month was expired, I was courted by no less than Three Suitors; Two Advocates belonging to the Parliament of Rouen, and a Marquis: But none of these were at all for my Purpose; the Advocates had no VOL. II. other

other Motive in paying me their Addreffes, except mere Vanity, and judging of me by themselves, thought I had in View no other Gratification in receiving them: But I was actuated by more folid Motives; and therefore the Gentlemen of the long Robe were not the Sort of Lover I wanted. The pretended Norman Marquis was a Conquest less valuable than even the other Two: for I foon found there were little Hopes of getting any Thing by him, and I plainly perceived that he had interested Views in paying his Addreffes to me. I therefore quickly difmiffed these useless Courtiers, and every Day frequented public Places, where I exerted all my Art, and played off the whole Artillery of my Charms in order to fupply their Places with fuch as might fuit me.

Courage, and the Goodness of their Cause; so that they found it no difficult Matter to rescue us from our Ravishers, Two of whom immediately betook themselves to Flight, but the Third being fecured by my Deliverers, they threatened to carry him before a Magistrate, and absolutely refused to set him at Liberty, till he confessed by whom he had been hired to undertake fo villainous an Action. He informed them, that both he and his Comrades were Sailors belonging to a Veffel just arrived from Martinico, and that they had been hired by Monf. Tourangeaux to feize and carry me by Force to a Country Seat of his, at Two Miles Diftance from Rouen; with regard to any farther Design against me, he declared himself to be intirely ignorant. The. Fellow

Miss BEVERLY. 125

Fellow, having made this Confession, was fuffered to depart.

My Deliverer immediately difmiffed the Gang, and offered to fee me fafe home; I readily accepted of his Offer, and finding, when we were come to the Door of the House where I lodged, that he was preparing to take his Leave of me, I gave him an Invitation to Supper. I could perceive by the Expression in his Face, that this Offer gave him the highest Satisfaction; and I had too much Experience in Love Affairs not to perceive, that his Joy was owing to a Passion with which I had fuddenly inspired him: This appeared still more evident to me from his Behaviour whilst we were at Supper; for not only his Discourse, but his Gestures and Glances, shewed plainly

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that

that he was completely enamoured of me. With regard to myfelf, I must acknowledge, that I could not fee him with Indifference, for he was both handsome and genteel, and there was an engaging Endearment in all he faid and did. He was tall, slender, and well shaped; his Hair was black, and curled gracefully; his Complexion was fo fwarthy, that if he had not spoken English with the Accent of a Native, I should have taken him for a Frenchman; but his Features were extremely pleasing, and there was in them a je ne sçai quoi, which shewed that his Heart was naturally disposed to Love and Tenderness. He gave me to understand that he was the Son of a rich Planter at Jamaica, to which Country he was to return in a few Days, having already laid in his Cargo, and dispatched

dispatched the Business which had brought him to Rouen. He told me that he was happy in having One of the most indulgent of Fathers; that he was Master of his Actions; and that all his Defires were complied with. He added, however, that he lay under One Restriction, as his Father had exacted from him an Oath, that he would never marry unknown to him, or without his Confent. When I submitted to this Restraint, continued he, I was too inconsiderate to reflect upon the Consequences of the Step I was taking, my Heart was then difengaged, and by a Thoughtleffness common to young Persons, I imagined it would always But now, faid he, fixing continue fo. his Eyes tenderly upon mine, I begin to repent of having thus forfeited the Liberty of disposing of my Hand, since I am G 4

I am no longer Master of my Heart, which is from this Moment intirely devoted to you alone.

There was formething of the Novice in this gallant Compliment of my American Lover, which I could not forbear finiling at. I eafily perceived from his Account of himself, that he was the very Man I wanted, and from what I observed of his Character, immediately concluded that I was by his Means in a fair Way of enjoying the Pleasures of Voluptuousness, and the folid Joys of that Kind of Love, which, as it is not of so elevated a Nature as to raise us intirely above this World, is confiftent with all the Gratifications of Sense; and is in one Respect preferable to that romantic Passion which takes Possession of the whole Soul, namely, that it is unembar-

unembarraffed with Fear, that great Counterpoise to all earthly Enjoyments. I gave Mr. Lennard, which was the Name of the young Creole, a general Invitation during the Time of his Stay at Rouen, and at our succeeding Interviews behaved in fuch a Manner as could not fail of making him fensible, that, notwithstanding his Oath, he had no Reason to think himself in the Case of a hopeless Lover. He proposed to me to accompany him to Jamaica, where, he affured me, it should be his fole Study to make me happy, adding, that he was even then possessed of Five hundred a Year, which it was in his Power to dispose of as he thought proper. I accepted of his Proposal without Hesitation, and the Thursday following was fixed for the Day of our Departure.

G 5 CHAP.

CHAP. XXXI.

S the Sea is an Element which I never found to agree with my Constitution, it gave me some Uneasiness to reflect, that I had so long a Voyage to make as that from Rouen to Jamaica. A long One indeed it proved, and I should have thought it equally tedious and difagreeable, had it not been for the Company of Mr. Lennard: His Endearments prevented me from giving way to languid Liftlessness during the insipid Sameness of the Calm, and rendered me fearless and undaunted amidst all the Horrors of the Storm.

We at last arrived fafe at Spanish Town, and I was immediately fettled in genteel Lodgings by Mr. Lennard, who passed all the Time that he could steal from his Father, and the Avocations of Business, in my Company. I had Four Blacks to attend me besides my own Servant-Maid, who was a French Woman. Mr. Lennard's Generosity was equal to his Love; it was customary with him, when he paid me a Visit, to make me a handsome Present, either of fomething of Value, or of a Bank Bill of Forty, Fifty, or a Hundred Pounds: My Days rolled on in uninterrupted Pleasure, and the Joys of Affluence had a heightened Relish, as I shared them with a Lover whose Complaifance and Affiduity were not to be furpassed, though in Person, and Accomplishments he was very much inferior

inferior to some whom I had known. No human Lot however is unallayed by Mifery, and there is fomething wanting to the most confummate Happiness upon Earth. Though I was extremely well pleafed with my Circumstances, I was by no Means fatisfied with the Place which I lived in. Jamaica, befides being too hot for an English Constitution, is extremely subject to Earthquakes: Nothing is more common there, than for the Alarm that an Earthquake is approaching to be given on a fudden by the ringing of a Bell, whereupon all the Inhabitants confult their Safety as well as they can by Flight; Nothing can be more shocking than the Uproar and Confusion upon these Occasions; the Sea is seen pouring in, and Waves Mountainhigh bursting upon the Shore, Steeples, Houses,

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Houses, and public Edifices tumbling in Ruins, or swallowed up by the gaping Earth; and, during the Time of this dreadful Shock, the whole Island trembles from its very Foundations, till it subsides all on a sudden, and People return to their Habitations.

But Strangers have more Reason to complain of the Country. The Climate is so hot, that Fevers are extremely rife there, and continue much longer than elsewhere. I was myself seized with a Fever about a Month after my Arrival, by which I was confined to my Bed for Two Months together, during which Time Mr. Lennard was seldom an Hour from my Bed's Side, and by his Tenderness and Attention to please me, greatly alleviated

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the Pains and Tediousness of my Illness. Jamaica, however, must be allowed to be a very fine Country, notwithstanding all the Disadvantages of its Climate. It is extremely fertile, and abounds with fine Prospects. In all my Travels, I never faw any Thing more striking than the Sixteen Mile Walk; it is very regular and exact, and the lofty Trees which are planted all along on either Side of it, at once delight the Eye and afford a necessary Shelter from the Heat of the Meridian The Planters at Jamaica are all very rich, and live as luxurious as the Courtiers of Versailles, or the Nobility and Gentry at St. James's. But besides the Inconveniencies taken notice of above, there are Two Circumstances, One of which is extremely shocking to Female Delicacy, namely, to fee the Black

Black Slaves always stark naked; the other equally so to all who have any Sense of Humanity, I mean, to see the cruel and inhuman Treatment which these unhappy Wretches receive from the unrelenting Barbarity of their Masters.

Mr. Lemard's Affection for me continued unabated during Two Years that I lived at Jamaica, and I always retained the same Degree of Affection for him that he inspired me with at first. The Attachment on both Sides was rather a Liking than a Passion, and of consequence could neither give Rise to Jealousy, or to the tormenting Fear of being deprived of the Object of our Affections: Such an Attachment as this appears to be best suited to our present Condition, for the more high and elevated.

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the Pains and Tediousness of my Illness. Jamaica, however, must be allowed to be a very fine Country, notwithstanding all the Disadvantages of its Climate. It is extremely fertile, and abounds with fine Prospects. In all my Travels, I never faw any Thing more striking than the Sixteen Mile Walk; it is very regular and exact, and the lofty Trees which are planted all along on either Side of it, at once delight the Eye and afford a necessary Shelter from the Heat of the Meridian Sun. The Planters at Jamaica are all very rich, and live as luxurious as the Courtiers of Versailles, or the Nobility and Gentry at St. James's. But besides the Inconveniencies taken notice of above, there are Two Circumstances, One of which is extremely shocking to Female Delicacy, namely, to fee the Black

Black Slaves always stark naked; the other equally so to all who have any Sense of Humanity, I mean, to see the cruel and inhuman Treatment which these unhappy Wretches receive from the unrelenting Barbarity of their Masters.

Mr. Lemard's Affection for me continued unabated during Two Years that I lived at Jamaica, and I always retained the same Degree of Affection for him that he inspired me with at first. The Attachment on both Sides was rather a Liking than a Passion, and of consequence could neither give Rise to Jealousy, or to the tormenting Fear of being deprived of the Object of our Affections: Such an Attachment as this appears to be best suited to our present Condition, for the more high and elevated.

elevated Kind of Love seems not adapted to the Inhabitants of this World, and those who are blessed with it for a Time, are always quickly deprived of their Felicity.

Twice had my Bosom glowed with a Flame as pure and refined as it was strong and powerful: The Love I felt for la Fleur was of that rapturous and feraphic Nature, which, though begun on Earth, should be continued in Heaven, and find its Completion in the Regions of eternal Blifs; but alas, la Fleur was fuddenly cut off by the Fury of an enraged Rival. The Fate of young Mareshall, whom I loved with equal Ardor, was still more severe; in all the Bloom of Youth he was, by a rigid Father, thrown into Confinement, and left to languish out a Life in the Obscurity of a Dun-

a Dungeon, which might have proved an Ornament to the most gay and brilliant of Courts. My Love for Mr. Lennard was of a very different Nature; though I was always pleafed with his Company, I could dispense with his Absence; and though I looked upon the Possession of his Person as a Blessing, the Thoughts of being deprived of it were not insupportable to me: The Reader should not therefore be furprized at being informed that I was not shocked or driven to Despair upon being told by my Lover himself, that his Father had formed a Refolution to marry him to Miss Isabella Adelard, the Daughter of One of the richest Planters in Jamaica, with whom he was to receive a Fortune of Twenty thousand Pounds; that we must therefore part as his Father, who had before overlooked

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looked our Loves, would never forgive him, if he was to continue them after Marriage; he affured me notwithstanding, that

He would always hold me in his Heart His ever gentle Mistress and his Friend.

FAIR PENITENT.

and made me a Present of a Five hundred Pound Bank Note to confole me for his Lofs.

Our Parting was tender, but there were no Tears shed on either Side; and as Jamaica was a Place which I should never have chosen to reside in, had it not been for my Connexion with Mr. Lennard, I embarked aboard a Ship for Dieppe, choosing rather to return to France than to visit England, where some of my Family were living, from whom I was

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I was extremely anxious to keep the Course of Life I had engaged in, an eternal Secret. After a prosperous Voyage, which I found extremely tedious for Want of such a Companion as Mr. Lennard, I arrived at Dieppe, where I staid about a Fortnight to refresh myself after the Fatigue of my Voyage, and then set out for Paris, which extraordinary Place I eagerly wished to see again.

Two shouland Pour los eigner in Canor rehable Effecter and hattered myfelf than could not four have Openfon to

Pasa or at Man ; in tade I hallend my feet which I thought, fore for scenaring One Everyng from a fairfund Contegra where my Foreman had not been

CHAP. XXXII.

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PON my Arrival at Paris, I hired genteel Apartments in la Rue de bons Enfans, where my Defign was to enjoy all the Pleasures of that City without troubling myfelf about making new Lovers, for I had by my Connexion with Mr. Lennard acquired near Two thousand Pounds, either in Cash or valuable Effects, and flattered myself that I could not foon have Occasion to fupply my Wants by applying to the Passions of Men; in fact, I slattered myself when I thought fo; for returning One Evening from a spiritual Concert, where my Footman had not been in the Way to attend me Home, I was ftruck

struck with Astonishment and Horror to find my Scrutore rifled, and every Thing of Value carried off: I could not help fcreaming aloud at feeing myfelf deprived, by a fudden Stroke of Fortune, of all I was worth, and my Cries immediately brought up the Landlord and all the Lodgers who were then at the Hotel; they all used their utmost Endeavours to confole me, and expressed the greatest Concern for my Loss; but I was not to be comforted by any Thing they could fay. To be thus deprived, in a Moment, of all that I depended upon for my Support, and reduced to extreme Want, was fo dreadful a Misfortune, as almost deprived me of my Reason.

As my Maid had disappeared as well as the Footman, it was natural to conclude

clude they were Accomplices in the Robbery. After many vain Lamentations, and hearing many Expedients equally vain proposed for discovering the Persons by whom this villainous Action had been committed, I withdrew to Bed, though Sleep or Repose was what I little expected:-No fooner had I laid my Head upon my Pillow, but worldly Want, that hideous, meagre Fiend, rose in a Thoufand frightful Shapes to my tortured Imagination; after having long lain awake in all the Agitations of Despair, my anxious Inquietude at last subsided into a melancholy Composure, and a deep Sleep, which was then what I most wanted, taking Possession of all my Senses, brought a momentary Relief of my Woe.

While

Whilst my Cares were thus fufpended, for a-while a Dream reprefented to my waking Fancy the following Scene, in Colours fo lively, that when my Sleep was diffipated by the Approach of Day, I could hardly help confidering it as a Reality. I first thought I beheld a gloomy and difmal Dungeon, in which a Person lay asleep upon a Couch: He appeared by his Agitations of Body to be racked by fome dreadful Perturbation of Mind; I thought he at last started up, and walked in a diforderly Manner about the Room. Soon after I perceived that it was my dear Maresball, whose unhappy Imprisonment I had often reproached myself with being the Cause of; my Heart bled at feeing him in fo wretched a Condition, and I was going to accost him, whilst a Flood of Tears flowed

flowed from my Eyes, when his Features, which were before difforted by Passion, became smooth all of a fudden, and a placid Serenity feemed to fucceed to the Sorrow which before harrowed up all the Faculties of his diffracted Soul. The visionary Form fixed his Eyes upon me with the fame Tenderness of Expression as when I by Stealth enjoyed his Company at our amorous Interviews, and feemed to address me in these Words, which sounded as distinctly in my Ears, as if they had been pronounced in Reality. " Be not " dejected, my best beloved, nor let " Sorrow prey upon your Mind. Some " few more Trials still await you; but " that Providence whose Care is over " all, will at last make you beyond " your most romantic Wishes happy. " I have long pined in the Solitude of

" this

" this Prison, but my good Angel is " at Hand to deliver me, and conduct " me to my Father, where, after a long " Separation, we shall meet never to be se parted more." And as foon as he had ended speaking, the Dungeon appeared to me to be illuminated by a sudden Light from Heaven, the Bolts and Bars of the Prison dropt in Pieces, the Door flew open, and I thought I faw a Person of an angelic Appearance enter the Room. His Face bloomed with youthful Beauty, celeftial Radiance beamed from his Eyes, the very Ringlets of his Hair were encircled with a starry Splendour, and One of his Hands displayed aloft a Scroll, upon which was traced in distinct Characters the Word LIBERTY. I thought he took Mareshall by the Hand, and led him out of the lifen. Vol. II. when H

when, on a fudden the Dungeon difappeared, and upon waking, I found myfelf in the same deplorable State wherein I was the Night before, and from the Sense of which Sleep had for a-while delivered me. Imagination represented to me the Circumstances of my Situation with aggravated Horror, and Conscience conspired with Reslection to render the Anguish of my Soul infupportable. Memory represented my past Conduct to my Mind in a different Light from what I had ever feen it before, and I could not help thinking that it was but just a Felony should deprive me of that Money which was the Reward of Proftitution and Guilt. My Trouble was not a little increased by the Brutality of my Landlord, who entered the Room foon after I was up, and infifted upon my paying him Two Months

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Months Rent beforehand, or leaving his House that Moment. Provoked at this Insolence and Baseness, I immediately quitted the Hotel.

I wandered about a long Time in great Perplexity of Mind, not having any Friend to apply to, and not knowing what to determine upon. I rambled a long Time in the State of Distraction a Person must be in, who does not know where to go, or what Resolution to take; at last, however, I found my anxious Perturbation succeeded by a sudden Tranquillity and inward Calm, of which I could not possibly assign to myself any Reason: I continued to walk on for some Time, still surprized that I felt such Satisfaction as this, at a Time I had so little Cause

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for it; when, just as I was entering la Rue de Richlieu, a Footman in a Livery, of which I had some confused Remembrance, though I then could not recollect where I had feen it, defired me to follow him. Perfons in my then present Situation are apt to conceive Hope from the most fortuitous Event, and think that whoever takes Notice of them, is a Person sent by Heaven to their Relief. My Heart became as elate as it was before dejected, and I followed the Footman without asking any Questions, my Breast throbbing with the Palpitations of Impatience, and quite unable to conjecture how this Adventure would end; I followed my Guide till we were very near the End of that noble Street la Rue de Richlieu, and then he conducted me into a fuperb Hotel, and having shewed me into

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into a Parlour richly furnished, pointed to a Sofa, which I understood as defiring me to sit down; I accordingly seated myself, and, with an Expectation raised to the highest Pitch, waited for the Conclusion of this Adventure; but that I shall reserve to the next Chapter.

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CHAP. XXXIII.

Especion who their whole were after one

HOUGH I waited but a few Moments, the Eagerness of my Impatience represented them as Hours, for Time is merely relative, and the fame Space of Duration which appears to us as an Age in certain Circumstances, feems merely momentary in others. I was at last, however, relieved from the Anxiety of Expectation, and my Impatience was converted into Surprize, when I faw Monf. Mareshall, the Father, enter the Room; he was then in Mourning, and there was a fettled Melancholy in his Countenance, that fuited with the gloomy Habit which he wore.

I rose

I rose as soon as I saw him, and I attribute my shewing him this Mark of Respect merely to the State of Humiliation in which I then was; for I had him in fuch Abhorrence, on Account of his cruel Treatment of his Son, that if my Spirit had not been humbled by the Consciousness of Poverty, I should have behaved to him without any Sort of Ceremony. He defired me to fit down, and having placed himself opposite to me, began by asking me, whether I remembered him? I told him with a Sigh, occafioned by the Remembrance of his Son, that I did; he then refumed the Conversation thus. " Alas, Madam, " when I see you I cannot but recollect, " that I once had a Son! - a Son who is " now no more, and whose Death makes " my Heart reproach me hourly as H 4 " the

" the cruel Caufer of it. Would to " Heaven I had confented to his " Union with you, which would have " made him completely happy, as you " had the intire Possession of his " Heart: Had I done fo, I should " not now lament his Loss." Here the old Gentleman burst out into Tears, and I accompanied him with all the Vehemence of Grief, and all the Anguish of the most heart-felt Affection. When our Sorrow was fornewhat subsided, Mons. Mareshall proceeded to inform me, that his Son had died of a broken Heart in his Confinement, and that by a Letter which he appeared to have written a short Time before he expired, he had recommended it to his Father to be a Friend to me, as that was the only Amends now in his Power to make him

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for all he had fuffered during his Confinement, and for his untimely Death, which he could afcribe to no other Caufe.

I was now no longer at a Loss to guess at the Meaning of the Dream I had the Night before; the Angel was a figurative Emblem of Death, which alone can deliver us from the Prison of this terrestrial World to the Regions of eternal Blifs, and the Expression, " that he was foon to go to his Father," I now found was to be understood in a Sense very different from the Construction which I had put upon it before. I could not help feeling the tenderest Emotions of Affection, to and that my dying Lover remembered me in his last Moments, and at the fame Time was somewhat surprized,

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that he should by a Kind of prophetic Impulse foresee, that I should stand in Need of his Father's friendly Assistance.

I was afterwards informed by Monf. Mareshall, that my Aunt had not long before died in a Convent, to which she had left her whole Fortune: He inquired into my Circumstances, which, from the Melancholy visible in my Face, he judged to be fuch, as at that Time made pecuniary Affistance necessary; and, as foon as I informed him of my Lofs, he presented me with his Purse, in which were Fifty Louis d'Ors, and, defiring me to call upon him when I stood in Need of farther Assistance. affured me that I should always find in him a Friend ever ready to supply my Wants and relieve me in my Diftress.

No Relief ever came more feafonably than this, as I was, by the Robbery above related, reduced to extreme Indigence; however I had not learned Prudence from Experience, for foon after I found myself possessed of this Sum, I lived with an Extravagance excufable only in One who had never known Diffress. My Sorrow for Mareshall, which for a Time was so violent, that all the Pleafures and Amusements of Paris could not abate it, and which my Reafon was unable to fubdue, was at last cured by another Passion, which having taken Possession of my Heart, I retained only a tender Remembrance of the Man by whom my Affections had before been intirely ingroffed.

CHAP. XXXIV.

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TAPPENING One Day to take a Walk in the Thuilleries, I accidentally let drop my Fan, which was taken up and returned to me by a young gentleman of fo amiable a Figure, that the very first Moment I cast my Eye upon him, I was as completely enamoured as I could have been, had I known him for many Years. From a long Experience in Love Affairs I think-I may lay it down as a Maxim, that Paffions are always equal and reciprocal: Love is always productive of a Love equally strong, and Hatred of a proportionate Degree of Aversion and Dislike. Monf. Toyeuse, which was the Name CHAPP

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Name of the young Gentleman who had fo fuddenly kindled the amorous Flame in my Breaft, conceived inftantaneously an Affection for me as strong as that with which I was inspired by him; he therefore availed himself of the Accident of returning my Fan to enter into Conversation with me, and I found his Manners as engaging as his Figure beautiful: I made no Scruple to invite him to my Lodgings; for the Experience I had by this Time acquired had banished that Reserve which most Women derive from their Education, if it has not been instilled into them by Nature. When I came to the

As Toyeuse was possessed of every Attraction that could captivate a Female Heart, I did not long combat my Inclinations, but yielded to his Solicitations:

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tions: I for fome Time enjoyed all the transporting Pleasures which successful Love alone bestows, and thought for a-while, that I had at last met with a Man worthy of my Love; but I foon found I had Rivals; for Toyeuse was a general Lover, and could not confine his Wishes to One alone: I discovered that he was kept by a Lady of Quality, and that it was intirely by her Bounty that he was enabled to make a Figure at Paris, being himself a Man of no Fortune; I discovered likewise, that he not only had Intrigues with Three or Four Court Ladies, but that he kept a Girl who danced at the Opera. When I came to the Knowledge of these Particulars, I could no longer think him deferving of my Affections; for the Heart which is divided amongst several cannot be worthy of One who would

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concenter all her Wishes upon a single Object. Had Toyeuse confined his Assections to me alone, I should have thought myself completely happy in his Love; but as I found that I only had a Place in a Heart to which others laid Claim, I thought the Ardor of my Love did not meet with an adequate Return.

My Life passed in a continued Round of Pleasure, and I lived in a perpetual Gratification of my Passions; but however, as no human Prosperity is lasting, mine was soon interrupted, and Calamity again visited me, when I thought myself secure from Danger. The Countess de la Vallette, who kept my Gallant Toyeuse, was of a Temper prone to Jealousy and capable of any sanguinary deed: My Intrigue with him soon came

came to her Knowledge, notwithstanding all the Care I took to keep it fecret from the World, and to fuch a Degree was she incensed to find me her Rival, that she hired a Ruffian to affaffinate me. I should certainly have fallen a Victim to her vindictive Rage, if Toyeuse himself had not come to my As-· fistance at the very Moment that the Bravo she had hired, who was a Native of Italy, was preparing to give me a Stab with a Stilletto; as foon as he faw One come to my Affistance, he took to his Heels; and as Toyeuse's Intention was not fo much to punish an Offender as to preferve my Life, he suffered him to escape; and I should never have known the Bottom of this black Affair. if this very Person had not been condemned fome Years after to be broke alive upon the Wheel at the Greve, at which

which Time he confessed, that he had been hired by the Countess de la Vallette, then dead, to make an Attempt upon the Life of an English Lady who was her Rival.

When I reflected upon the Danger I had escaped, I could not help recollecting with Aftonishment, that I was then in my Twenty-seventh Year, when, according to the Prediction of Mr. Blackwood, related in the First Chapter of these Memoirs, I was to be in imminent Danger of my Life through the Jealoufy of a Rival. This Attempt was was foon followed by another, which made me conclude that my Life would be in Danger as long as I staid in France; and many Instances which I had heard of French Ladies going any Lengths to destroy a Rival, made me deterdetermine to go directly to England. I dreaded a Fate like that of the celebrated Mademoiselle la Couvreur, Mistress to Marshal Saxe, and One of the most eminent Actresses that ever graced the French Stage.

The Duchess of Bouillon, who had been the Mistress of Marshal Saxe, and was forsaken by him when he attached himself to Mademoiselle la Couvreur, was so incensed at seeing herself left for an Actress, that she never rested till she had caused her Rival to be taken off by Poison: It is said, that la Couvreur had provoked her Resentment by applying to her the following Verses in the Phadra of Racine, when she performed the principal Part in that Tragedy;

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- Je ne suis point de ces femmes bardies, qui goutant dans le crime une tranquille paix, ont sçu se faire un front qui ne rougit jamais.
- I am not One of those consident Women, who, enjoying Peace and Tranquillity whilst they lead vicious Lives, have found the Secret to assume a Countenance incapable of blushing.

Soon after the Night that the Duchels had received the Affront, an Abbé, who was an intimate Acquaintance of la Couvreur, found a Box of poisoned Comfits in his Chamber and a Letter, by which he was given to understand, that if he did not send them as a Present to la Couvreur, his own Life would be in Danger. He could not conceive

I had heard likewise of the Marchioness de Brinvilliere, and the Infamous la Voisin, by whom so many had been poisoned; and as I was thus apprized that this fatal Art had been carried to great Perfection in France, I thought it imprudent to stay any longer in a Kingdom where my Life was every Day in Danger. I imparted my Design,

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as well as the Reasons of it, to Toyeuse, who could not but approve of my Resolution, though he expressed great Regret at our Separation. Before I lest France I waited upon Mons. Mareshall, who made me a Present of a Hundred Louis d'Ors. I had received several Sums from him whilst I had been in Paris, which enabled me to live in Splendor and Affluence.

In pursuance of this Resolution I embarked at Calais, and in Four-and-twenty Hours arrived at Dover, where I took a Place in the flying Machine, which started at Four o'Clock in the Morning, and set us down at the Foot of Westminster Bridge about Eight o'Clock the same Day. Immediately after my Arrival I took Lodgings in Leicester

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Leicester Fields, and changed my Name for that of Miss Ellison, being unwilling that my Sister, or any of my Relations, should know I was in London, whilst I led a Life which my Reason could not but disapprove of, though a long Habit of luxurious Living had rendered expensive Pleasures so necessary to me, that to relinquish them, would have been like parting with Life itself. I foon became generally known, and my Favours were folicited by feveral Suitors, whose Addresses I incouraged intirely through interested Views; for none of them possessed personal Attractions or Address capable of engaging my Affections. This Crowd of Lovers was quickly banished by One who, being possessed of a considerable Estate, thought himself intitled to a Preference to all his Rivals, and as Money

Money was what I at that Time had chiefly in View, I did not scruple to give him the Preference he required. I indeed found him a lucrative Lover. for his Generofity had no Bounds: He not only made me often rich Presents. but was daily devising Parties of Pleafure, and making Entertainments upon my Account, which cost him considerable Sums of Money. But the Jealoufy of his Temper and his conftant Suspicion created me so much Uneafiness, that I thought Affluence dearly bought at the Expence of my Repose: Having, therefore, formed a Refolution to leave him, no fooner had I infinuated my Intention, but Sir William Morely, which was the Name of my Keeper, cried, raved, fell on his Knees, and practifed every Art which Paffion could fuggest, in order to induce me

to change my Purpose; but finding me perfift in it, he drew his Sword, and would have laid violent Hands upon himself, had not his Valet de Chambre and my own Servant, who were alarmed by my Cries, opportunely entered the Room, and prevented this desperate Action.

I had never liked Sir William, but after this desperate Action I beheld him with Abhorrence: His having made an Attempt upon his own Life convinced me, that he was a Man of fuch turbulent and unruly Paffions, that it was dangerous to continue my Connexions with him. I was puzzled to get rid of this importunate Lover, whose Addresses caused me greater Trouble and Perplexity than I ever fuffered from the feverest Machinations,

or open Injuries of an Enemy. I never met with a stronger Proof of the Truth of Dr. Young's Observation, That Love may be often taken for Hatred by its Effects. Whenever Sir William came to fee me, I had the most bitter Reproaches to expect, Complaints that I did not return his Passion with equal Ardour, and conftant Jealoufies, which were often occasioned by such trifling Circumstances, as my having spoke to a Gentleman at a public Place, or casting a favourable Glance upon a Man whom I thought handsome. Sufpicious and jealous Tyranny are insupportable in a Husband, but they are still more irksome in a Lover; because, where a Return of Love cannot be claimed as a Duty, to exact it with Rigour must appear a most provoking Injustice. Whilst I was embarrassed Vol. II. with

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with devising Expedients to get rid of Sir William, Fortune at last did that which I never could hit upon the Means of effecting, though I long racked my Invention to procure a Deliverance from the painful Constraint I had for some Time lived in.

Sir William One Day taking a Ride towards Richmond was thrown by an unruly Horse, severely bruised, and his Hand fractured in such a Manner, that the Physicians and Surgeons who attended him despaired of his Life: When he selt the Approach of Death, he sent for me, and I immediately waited on him. Though I had never loved Sir William, and his Jealousy had lately been a perpetual Source of Torment to me, I could not help feeling

deeply grieved VERLY. 171

feme Compunction at feeing him in fuch a deplorable State, and as Pity seldom fails to melt the Soul to Love, it upon this Occasion inspired me with a Degree of Tenderness for this unfortunate Man, which I had never felt before: He took his last Farewel of me with a Flood of Tears, and declared, that it was not fo much the Loss of Life he regretted, as the being separated from me, upon whose Account alone he felt any Attachment to Life. Just before he expired, he fent for a Notary Public, and made a Will, by which he bequeathed me Five thousand Pounds: This Generosity, and the great Concern he expressed for my Lofs, produced fuch an Effect upon me, that I could not refrain from shedding Tears for the Death of a Man, who, during his Life, had cre-

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Thoughts had for a considerable Time been intirely taken up with ruminating on a Method to put an End to our Connexions.

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CHAP. XXXV.

INDING myself upon the Death of Sir William possessed of Five thousand Pounds in Money, and to the Amount of Two thousand Pounds more in Jewels and Effects, I formed a Refolution no longer to admit indifcriminately the Addresses of every Suitor who offered, but to wait till I could meet with a Man worthy of my Care, as I was no longer under a Necessity of availing myself of the Passions of Men in order to procure the Means of gratifying my own. All my ready Cash I deposited in the Hands of a Banker, and having taken Lodgings in Pallmall, I now begun to enjoy the World

as a Woman of Fortune, and not as One who depended upon the Caprice and Passions of others. Though I was little difposed to encourage the Addresses of Lovers, it was not long before I was taken Notice of by more than One; an elderly Gentleman, whose Name was Sir Joseph Rogers, paid me honourable Addresses, and excited me very warmly to marry him, but I was refolved never to enter into an Engagement for Life, till I could meet with a Man every Way worthy of my Esteem and Affection; and I could never regard One almost Fifty Years of Age in that Light. I suppose many of my Readers will confider it as the Height of Imprudence in me to reject the Offers of a Man, who possessed an Estate of Two thousand a Year in Northampton. When I was in the lowest,

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lowest and most reduced State, Wealth never appeared to me an Equivalent for the Loss of Liberty, and now I was possessed of what I deemed a Competence, it was the last Thing I was inclined to take into Consideration in a Lover.

Another Lover presented about the same Time, with whom I was much better pleased, and entertained; I doubt not but all my Female Readers will acknowledge I had Reason to be 10, when they have read the Description which I give of his Person: Mr. Eustace, which was the Name of the Gentleman who succeeded Toyeuse in my Affection, was at that Time only in the Twenty-fifth Year of his Age; it cannot therefore appear surprising, that I should preser him to a Man I 4

almost Fifty; he was near Six Feet high, and in his Person rather slender, though he had all the Symptoms of Strength and Vigour in his Limbs; his Features were regular, and there was a pleasing Youthfulness in his Countenance; he had fine black Hair, which he wore clubbed, and which became him with the utmost Grace: If there was any Defect in his Appearance, it was that he had not intirely the Look of a Gentleman, but rather the Air of a handsome Footman: This may be naturally ascribed to his being of a mean Origin, for his Parents were at first only possessed of a small Farm in the North of Scotland, though, by God's Bleffing upon their Industry, they were afterwards enabled to purchase an Estate. Mr. Eustace had something engaging

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engaging in his Manner, with which I was highly taken; but I discovered One Attraction in him, which another would have overlooked, or very probably have considered as a Defect; for as Mr. Gay observes,

Lovers Beauties spy
In what seems Faults to every vulgar Eye.

My new Lover spoke English with the Scotch Accent, and I thought there was a Prettiness in his Tone, a je ne sçai quoi pleasing to the Ear, which I thought every Way preserable to the best English.

I had not been long acquainted with Mr. Eustace, when I found he had made a considerable Impression on my I 5

Heart. He was an exceeding good Mufician, could play upon feveral Instruments, and even understood Composition; he fometimes wrote Songs in my Praise, which he himself set to Music. Though he possessed so many Accomplishments, and I liked him as an agreeable young Fellow, I could by no Means confider him as a Man deferving of my Love; for besides that he was greatly inferior to Toyeuse, and fome of my former Lovers in Person, I discovered a Quality in him, which I always confidered as One of the greatest Blemishes a Character can have; the Quality I mean is Avarice: A Heart in which the Love of Gold can find a Place, can never be worthy of a Person capable of loving with the tenderest Affection: I felt, however, a great Degree of Liking for Mr. Eustace, and could

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could not long resist his Addresses, but yielded to my Passion, and received him as a Lover, though my Heart could by no Means discover in him the ultimate Completion of its Wishes.

I enjoyed all the Pleasures of the Town, and the Company of Mr. Eustace, who attended me at all public Places, greatly heightened the Relish of that Round of Delights, in which my Life for a long Time glided away: But a fatal Event at last wakened me from my Dream of Felicity, and reminded me, that all human Happiness is of a fleeting and transitory Nature. I had for some Months been used to such an uninterrupted Course of Prosperity, that I began to forget how often

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often I had been plunged in Adversity, and steeped in Poverty up to the Lips, to use an Expression of Shakespeare; but I was at length waked out of my Lethargy by a fatal Event, the Account of which I shall reserve to the following Chapter.

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C H A P. XXXVI.

THE tragic Event of which Mention was made at the Conclufion of the preceding Chapter, was the Bankruptcy of Mr. Silvester, with whom I had deposited upwards of Six thousand Pounds, of which I was deprived in an Instant by his unforeseen Stroke of Fortune. What heightened the Sense of my Distress was, that I found myself immediately deferted by Mr. Eustace, the only Man for whom I then felt any Degree of Affection. His forfaking me I could ascribe to no other Cause, but my being thus suddenly reduced to extreme Indigence; and this.

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this Thought inspired me with a meaner Opinion of him than I ever entertained before: I could not, however, hate him, though perhaps his Behaviour rendered him an Object of Detestation; when once I have loved a Man, my Affection can never be totally eradicated from my Heart, but I always remember him with a Tenderness mixed with Compassion, however he may by his Behaviour have forseited all Title to my Love.

Accustomed as I had been to Misfortunes, I had never learned Philosophy to support them; and indeed I have often been tempted to think, that all Pretences to Resignation are vain, and that it is not in human Nature to bear up against the Pressure of a present Evil. It is a just Observation of the celebrated Duke de la Rochfoucault, that Philosophy triumphs over past Ills and over those to come, but that the present triumph over it. My Experience now verified this Observation; for I found myself utterly incapable of supporting a Calamity which took me quite unprepared; I deplored my Loss with the utmost Anguish and Bitterness of Heart, nor found any Thing capable of administring Confolation. Nothing can be more true, than that the Efforts of Mind we make to lament, and bewail our Misfortunes. would, if properly exerted, be fufficient to repair them; yet fuch is the Frailty of human Nature, that most Sufferers aggravate their Miseries by Impatience, instead of taking the proper Methods to alleviate them.

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After much Time loft in fruitless Regret, I at last began to deliberate what were the best Measures I could take in the present Emergency; but fuch was the Distraction of my Mind, that not a Thought occurred which my Reason did not reject upon Examination. Confidering my Lofs and the expensive Manner in which I had lived fince the Death of Sir William, I had very little Money left, and I was fo far from taking the prudent Course of diminishing my Expences, that I continued to live in the same Manner as before my Loss, and indeed Pleasures and Amusements were now become necesfary to diffipate the gloomy Melancholy which preyed upon my Heart; but Sorrow was too deeply rooted in it, and it was generally remarked by all who knew me, that I was crest-fallen, and that

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that my Character and Disposition were totally changed. An accidental Occurrence, however, soon after in some Measure restored my Tranquillity of Mind; but I shall defer giving any Account of this till next Chapter, as I have dwelt already too long upon the same Topics in this.

C. H A P. XXXVII.

A T the Close of the last Chapter I informed the Reader, that an Incident at last happened which restored my long-lost Tranquillity of Mind; I shall in this inform him what it was, though I suppose I shall thereby incur the Imputation of Superstition. I was One Evening accidentally engaged in a serious Conversation with an elderly Gentleman who lodged in the House, and a Lady that lived in the Neighbourhood, who being also advanced in Years took Pleasure in Topics of the grave Cast.

The Conversation turned upon those Pressentiments and Predictions of Futurity, turity, of which fome Instances occur in History, and of which I had met with some Examples in the Course of my Experience; I related the Three Predictions of Mr. Blackwood; the Completion of the Two first of which gave me some Reason to expect that of the Third, though I was then in my Thirty-fourth Year, and had met with a Misfortune which feemed to contradict the aftrological Calculation, according to which I was to be made happy in my Thirty-fourth Year; I likewise mentioned another Instance of this marvellous Nature, the Dream I had concerning young Maresball's Deliverance from a Prison, which was so oddly verified by his Death. The old Gentleman told me that he had some Knowledge of the Science in question, and, having at my Request calculated

my Nativity, gave me to understand, that the Completion of the last Prediction was approaching, that I should be soon made happy by the Possession of a Man worthy of my Love; but that some Missfortune, of which he had but an indistinct and confused Idea, impended over me first: He added, that there was something like a Deliverance from Prison in my Fate as well as that of Mareshall, but in a different Sense; and concluded, that from the Position of the Stars he was not then able to give me any farther Insight into Futurity.

I will frankly acknowledge myself to be so far tinctured with Superstition, that the Consideration of my being in my Thirty-fourth Year, and this Consirmation of the former astrological Prediction, in a great Measure restored my

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Tranquillity of Mind, though my Finances were very low, and I had to all Appearance less Reason than ever to be fatisfied with my Situation. My Circumstances grew every Day worse and worse, and I at last found myself arrested by the Woman in whose House I lødged for the Sum of Fifty Pounds, which it then was not in my Power to pay: I was fo shocked at this second Misfortune, fo foon following the first, that I quite forgot what the old Gentleman had told me; for had I recollected it, it would have afforded me fome Consolation in the Midst of my Diffress. I was conducted to an Officer's House, where I endeavoured to stay as long as I could, though at an enormous Expence, rather than go to a Gaol, the very Idea of which filled me with Horror. I wrote to several Perfons

fons to whom I had been known in the Days of my Affluence, but none of them would take any Notice of me in the Hour of Diftress. My Finances were now almost exhausted, and I was thinking of having Recourse to the only Refuge left me, I mean to the Assistance of my Sister, when Heaven sent an Angel to my Relief, who not only threw open the Doors of my Prison, and set me at Liberty, but gave me the strongest Assurances of Happiness for the Remainder of my Days; but this happy Catastrophe shall be the Subject of the next Chapter.

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CHAP. XXXVIII. and laft.

WHILST I was languishing in Confinement and almost driven to the Necessity of having Recourse to my Sister, whom I was very unwilling to trouble upon such an Occasion, Sir Charles Raymond, a Gentleman possessed of a considerable Estate in Shropshire, happened to come to the Officer's House to which I was carried, to see a Gentleman who was brought Prisoner there some Time after me.

Sir Charles in Beauty surpassed all the Men I had ever seen; neither la Fleur nor Mareshall, my Two French Lovers, could compare with him, though the Lustre

ing what any other Woman would have

·Miss BEVERLY. 193 concealed, endeared me to him more than ever, and proved me to be Mistress of a Heart, which a Monarch might be proud of possessing. He added, that as he was Mafter of his own Actions, and could not brook any Delay to his Happiness, he would marry me within the Week, if my Friends and Relations made no Objection to the Match. I could now no longer doubt that I had met with a Man every way deferving of my Love; his perfifting in his Resolution to marry me, even after I had given him a faithful Narrative of all the Events of my Life, showed that his Passion was as strong as it was deserving; and that he was ready to facrifice every thing to Love. I expressed the warmest Sense of Gratitude for his kind Intentions; but requested him to do nothing precipitately, lest he might afterwards re-Vol. II. pent

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pent what he had not maturely deliberated, but to defer the Execution of his Purpose for about a Month, that he might be fure he would never have Occasion to alter his Resolution. or wish that undone, which had been hurried on with too little Confideration. He affured me, that he never could repent any Refolution taken in my Favour; and fending for the Officer, in whose House I was Prisoner, proceeded without Delay to take the proper Measures for my Enlargement. My Plaintiff being sent for, Sir Charles immediately paid my Debt, and I was discharged directly.

A Coach was called, and my Deliverer carried me, at my own Request, to my Sister's, who received me with open Arms. She informed

me,

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me, that my Father lived a retired
Country Life with my Mother, having
never found Means to repair his Failure in Business; and that Lady Clayton continued to live in all her former
Splendor. I immediately wrote to my
Parents; and my Happiness will be no
longer delayed than till they come up
to Town, to give the Sanction of their
Presence to the Marriage Ceremony.

Having thus past the Voyage of Life, partly in the Calms and Sunshine of Prosperity, and partly in struggling with the Storms of Misery and Adversity, I at last have the Port of Happiness in View, and hope for Haleyon Days, without Interruption for the future; I shall therefore here put an End to the Recital of my Adventures, as a Narrative ceases to be interesting, when

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no longer chequered by a Mixture of Good and Evil, and diversified by Change of Scene, or various Vicifitudes of Fortune.

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